Chicago

Coin

Club

Chatter

January, 2005

Chatter

Chicago Coin Club

Volume 51 No. 1 January 2005

Survey Enclosed

Please fill out the survey included in the middle of many of the printed Chatters; an addressed stamped envelope is included with each survey. The topic is the club meetings, so some of the more distant members were not sent a survey.

Minutes of the 1032nd Meeting

The evening began at approximately 6:00PM with a social hour and the opening of the silent auction.

President Mark Wieclaw called the 1032nd meeting of the Chicago Coin Club to order on December 8, 2004 at 7:04PM. The meeting was held at the Alpine Haus Banquet Hall. This was the annual banquet.

After outlining the program for the evening Mark asked Richard Hamilton to provide an invocation before dinner. Dinner concluded at about 8:00PM. Lyle Daly announced the closing of the silent auction at 8:15PM.

First Vice President Robert Feiler introduced the speaker for the evening, Thom Cicchelli, the designer of the Illinois state quarter. Thom offered insights and personal experiences from the design competition for the reverse of our state quarter and the subsequent work with the US Mint. First Vice President Robert Feiler thanked Thom and presented him with the featured speakers medal and an ANA educational certificate.

Due to the late hour President Wieclaw in a sagely fashion requested a motion to hold an abbreviated business meeting. A motion was made seconded and passed to abbreviate the meeting. Minutes were not approved and no Treasurer's report was read.

Second Vice President Jeff Rosinia announced the results of the Cabeen

award. This award is given to members who receive the highest ratings in the monthly "Show and Tell". Robert Leonard received an honorable mention. His average annual rating was within 10% of this year's winner. Soon to be past president Mark Wieclaw was an extremely close second place recipient. Member Chuck Jacobs received first place.

Mark Wieclaw then asked Bob Leonard to step forward and called the nominees for office for the 2005-2006 term to come forward. Bob Leonard then swore in Robert Feiler as President, Jeff Rosinia as First Vice President, and Lyle Daly as Second Vice president.

Mark Wieclaw made a brief closing statement after handing the gavel over to Robert Feiler. Mark acknowledged the tireless efforts of member Carl Wolf for his unwavering commitment and support of the Chicago Coin Club. All present agreed and offered well deserved round of applause. Mark further stated that numismatics is a wonderful hobby. The coins and currency are intriguing; however the real treasure is the friendships that we develop. The year 2004 saw new members come and losses within the numismatic community. Mark reminded us to treasure friendship.

Joel Reznick briefly addressed the club and advised he will be moving to Florida. He echoed the sentiments that Mark had conveyed and expressed his fondest regards to the club and membership. He will keep us present in mind.

New President Bob Feiler requested a motion to adjourn. A motion was made seconded and passed to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

As a post meeting note, the silent auction raised $634 for the Chicago Coin Club. Thanks to all of you who participated. Generous contributions from members Mark Wieclaw, Bob Feiler, Bill Burd, Chuck Jacobs, Joel Reznick and guests KL Daly, Hal Burke and Nancy Maczka deserve special thanks.

Respectfully submitted by Lyle Daly

Important Dates

January	**12**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Greg Goodrow on *Vietnamese Cash Coinage, 968-1945*
February	**9**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*
March	**9**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*
March	**18-20**	11th Annual Chicago Paper Money Expo (CPMX) at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont. Admission is $5 for Friday and Saturday; free on Sunday.
March	**19**	CCC Meeting - 1pm at the Chicago Paper Money Exposition, which is held at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 N. River Road, Rosemont, IL. No admission charge for our meeting. Featured Speaker - *to be announced.*
April	**13**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*
April	**22-24**	29th Annual Chicago International Coin Fair (CICF) at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont. Admission is $5.
April	**23**	CCC Meeting - 1pm at the Chicago International Coin Fair (CICF), which is held at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. No admission charge for our meeting. Featured Speaker - *to be announced*

Birthday and Year Joined

February	2	Tillie Boosel	
February	9	Steven G. Zitowsky	1991
February	16	Donald H. Dool	1998
February	25	Walter Pershke	1968
February	27	Ronald Martino	1991

The Electronic Numismatist

Dr. George Heath started *The Numismatist* (initially called *The American Numismatist*) in the fall of 1888. In 1891 the American Numismatic Association was founded and *The Numismatist* was soon adopted as the official publication, an honor the magazine still holds to this day. Complete year sets from the first twenty years do not appear often at auction, and when they do appear they realize strong prices. Years ago the ANA re-issued the articles from the first ten years in a single volume, but that does not appear very often on the market.

Some club members are working on their own complete sets, while some other members have only the more readily available issues starting from around 1930. Although the idea of producing an electronic version has been kicked around for a number of years, nothing has been produced. Until now, that is.

The club recently received an announcement from Jorg Lueke, that he will be making available the issues from 1888-1963 in electronic form. He has converted, bookmarked, and indexed onto .PDF files the first six volumes of the Numismatists issued from 1888-1893 into the first compilation of material called The Electronic Numismatist. Subsequent volume sets are planned in the following schedule:

Vol 7-16 (1894-1903) Apr.2005
Vol 17-26 (1904-1913) Jul.2005
Vol 27-36 (1914-1923) Oct.2005
Vol 37-46 (1924-1933) Feb.2006
Vol 47-56 (1934-1943) May.2006
Vol 57-66 (1944-1953) Aug.2006
Vol 67-76 (1954-1963) Nov.2006

Although each set normally sells for $29.95 for web download, a special price of $19.95 per set is offered to all members of the Chicago Coin Club. A summary of the project can be found at:
http://www.ancientcoinvalues.com/24.html

The facing page shows a sample.

THE AMERICAN Numismatist

Vol. 1. September-October 1888. NO. 1.

ON COLLECTING.

This is the age of collections and the spirit of gathering together and classifying is abroad. It shows itself in the gigantic museums, the vast art and antiquarian collections and the great libraries that grace the capitals and literary centers of the world, that have become the meccas of so many pilgrims today.

This spirit has gathered force as it crossed the waters, and in our young republic great progress has been made. The old world and the ages of the past are yielding their tribute to us and the time will come when the country that has given by far the greatest exposition, will have the grandest museums and collections of art.

The day is coming when the old world will study from American masters; when pilgrimages will be to the Occident rather than the Orient.

We have lately established in Washington, one of the largest museums on the globe. A museum, though yet in its infancy, in some departments has no equal. States vie with states in the greatness of their collections in the different fields of science and art.

Cities and public institutions feel the influence and local societies and collections are established. The enthusiasm of our youth catches the prevailing spirit and the different tastes are shown in the variety of their collections.

A sign of the time most favorable, is the spirit of our youth in these matters; weak and feeble as the efforts may be, fruit will be borne in the future.

It is a hopeful sign when the youth of any land turn their attention to the making of collections; whether it be of coins, minerals, indian relics, paper money, birds eggs, autographs, postage stamps, fossils or curious, it matters not, from any of these lines much may be learned, and the taste cultivated will invariably lead to something higher and better. The germ is there, fruit will be borne some day.

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For variety, complexity, and innumerability of their coinage, commend us to those small principalities and powers that were of Germany. Fifteen years ago, with a few dozen specimens we vainly thought our set was complete now, with upwards of a thousand varieties, we find we have just begun.

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There is nothing you can collect that will represent so much, if properly selected, or will cost so little, if properly bought, as a varicty of fifty, one or two hundred coins.

The largest collection of coins in the world is that of the National Library of Paris, consisting of over 250,000 specimens.

Over 700 coins issued between 964-1138 A. D. were lately exhumed in France. They were found with other relics, in two vases showing evidence of fire.

Thal is the German for valley. In 1517 silver taken from the mines in the vallcys or thals of Bohcmia, was first coined into what was called thalers.

From a corruption of this expressive german word we get our word dollar of to day.

Our 1033rd Meeting

Date:	January ~~14, 2004~~ 12, 2005
Time:	7:00 PM
Location:	Downtown Chicago At the Chicago Bar Association (CBA), 321 S. Plymouth Court, in the Albert F. Holfeld Room on the 5th floor.*Please remember the security measures at our meeting building:* ***everyone*** *must show their photo-ID at the security desk.*
Featured speaker:	Greg Goodrow - *Vietnamese Cash Coinage, 968-1945* Greg Goodrow has collected Vietnamese artifacts since 1980; nine years ago he began to specialize in collecting their coinage. His talk will cover the beginnings of Vietnam's cash coinage, types of cash coins, influences from China and the historical significance surrounding different rulers. Greg will also offer clarification on the many tributary names assigned to the country. Contemporary counterfeits on the market and current literature will also be covered.

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Chicago Coin Club

Volume 51 No. 2 **February 2005**

Minutes of the 1033rd Meeting

The 1033rd meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Robert Feiler. Guests for the evening were Bob Graves, Greg Goodrow, Winston Zack and his parents Tom and Sherri Zack.

The December Minutes as published in the *Chatter* were approved. Steve Zitowsky submitted a Treasurer's report showing December 2004 revenue of $1,682.00, expenses of $400.53, leaving an asset balance of $8,433.32 as of December 31, 2004. Winston Zack submitted his application for junior membership. Correspondence was read.

First Vice-President Jeff Rosinia introduced featured speaker, Greg Goodrow who spoke on *Vietnamese Cash Coinage,* and presented him with an American Numismatic Association Educational Certificate and an engraved Club speaker's medal.

Second Vice-President Lyle Daly introduced the following exhibitors for the evening:

- Steve Zitowsky – four Spitzbergen tokens from the Arktikugon Mining Company in 10, 25, 50 and 100 rubles, 25 & 50 ore coins from 1926 Greenland, a 50 ore issued in 1922 for the Ivigtut Cryolite Mining and Trading Company, and four aluminum meal tokens for the Royal Danish Air Force Narssarssuaq Air Base on the southern tip of Greenland;
- Don Dool – a series of 10 bronze DeGortz dalers issued 1715-1719 in Sweden with an SM (silver money) reverse;
- Mark Wieclaw – Corinthian stater from Syracuse 344 BC, Alexandrian tetradrachm (Roman) issued by Gordian III (235-238 AD) with spread eagle reverse, two lead seals from U.S. Mint silver eagle boxes and a four piece 50-cent piece type set in well

worn condition;
- Lyle Daly – 1869 U.S. three cent piece with significant die clashing and a monogram from the American Antiquarian Society *How Much is That in Real Money.*

Under old business, Jeff Rosinia reported that the Club may have a complimentary meeting room soon at the Bank One building 131 S. Dearborn. Carl Wolf reported on his communications with the Chicago Temple. President Feiler called for 2005 featured speakers and Mark Wieclaw volunteered to speak at the February meeting on Roman Egyptian tetradrachms.

Under new business Jeff Rosinia volunteered to help anyone interested in writing the Club's Chicago Paper Money Expo (March 19th) souvenir sheet. Lyle Daly received positive feed back on the December banquet silent auction ($623.00 income) and President Feiler suggested that coin dealers be sought out for auction donations at future banquets. He also suggested the Club schedule the December annual banquet sooner.

It was announced that Dennis Fuller passed away and the membership held a minute of silence in his memory.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Carl Wolf
Secretary

Speaker's Wor[l]d
Vietnamese Cash Coinage, 968-1945

Presented by Greg Goodrow to our January 12, 2005 meeting.

The region now known as Vietnam has a long and varied history; the same is true for its coinage. Before 939, Chinese cast bronze coins were used; locally produced coins were made after it gained autonomy. Since the economy was characterized by subsistence farming and bartering, the bronze coins were often melted down to make military and farm implements.

The local mints used the same manufacturing techniques as the Chinese, so the resulting coins were quite similar. Even the basic symbolism was

the same: the round shape of the coin signified heaven, while the central square hole signified earth.

The designs were simple and functional; the ruler's or dynasty's name appears on the coins, as does the reign title or dynasty's motto. Sometimes, the reverse had a mintmark; and some even used the cyclic Chinese calendar. One typical legend translates to "pure original circulating treasure" and most phrases end with the words circulating treasure which are *Thong Bao* in Vietnamese.

A number of coins were passed around during the meeting; anywhere from 20 to 50, or even more, pieces were strung on a rope. That is how they were handled, and that is how many are found to this day. Groups are found throughout southeast Asia; the many coins now coming out of Java point to some type of trade usage then. The Vietnamese coins are commonly found mixed with coins from China and other neighbors.

The tumultuous history of the region has much in common with contemporary medieval Europe: some eras of benevolent rule broken by invasions, rebellions, and other discord. Consider one of the later situations covered by Greg: after the 1770s rebellion by 3 brothers against two regional governments succeeded, the Chinese invaded; the brothers united to drive the Chinese out, but then they resumed their separate ways with two of the brothers issueing coins.

The coinage can be confusing, but that is what makes it interesting to Greg. Nice examples of the common types from many eras are available on eBay: later eighteenth and nineteenth century official coins start at $1 to $2 while the coins of the Later Le dynasty (1428 to about 1500) run around $5 to $10.

Coins from the French period of the 1800s and 1900s were briefly mentioned, and Greg concluded with the Japanese occupiers collecting the old cast bronze cash pieces during World War II, intending to export them to Japan to make cartridge cases. At the war's end, many barrels were confiscated from dock side and used to produce the 2 dong coins picturing Ho Chi Minh.

What's in the Library of Your *Alma Mater*?

Sometimes it's a wonder how and where numismatic writers uncover new information. This was discussed one evening several years ago during a meeting of Club members. The topic was numismatic research and it was led by Robert D. Leonard, Jr. There was a variety of answers, but one was get into major libraries around the world and dig. dig, dig.

This article is about how a library with rare and unusual information may be closer than previously thought. In the May-June issue of *Minnesota*, the journal for the U of M alumni association, an article appeared on the James Ford Bell Library.

The University of Minnesota's James Ford Bell Library is home to rare 500-year-old one-of-a-kind maps and books. A 1483 volume in the collection recounts Marco Polo's travels through Asia 100+ years earlier. Reports written by Jesuit missionaries on North America in the 1600's offer fascinating details of the life and land under exploration. A hand-written account by a Venetian nobleman of his travels across the Middle East and India during the early 1600's details the culture and people with illustrations provided by a French artist he met along the road. A 1466 portolan chart (a nautical map hand painted on animal skin) includes vivid and colorful images around the serious business of noting every feature along the European and North African coastlines.

The 1424 portolan chart caught the eye of retired British navyman Gavin Menzies, author of 1421: The Year China Discovered America, where he claimed Chinese fleets mapped the globe in the early 1400s. Large islands are pictured on the portolan chart far across the Atlantic decades before Columbus sailed. Some believe these new lands were added based on myth, but Menzies believes the portolan proves the news of China's discovery traveled to Europe.

The Bell Library began in 1953 with the donation of 600 books and a handful of maps by James Ford Bell, founder of General Mills. Bell's original collection focused on European trade, especially fur traders and others in the upper Midwest. The collection has now grown to some 25,000 rare books and approximately 2,500 maps. The focus has expanded to include early European trade and expansion around the globe. Bell's founding donation included an endowment and funds to

create the James Ford Bell Room, which looks and feels like a study in a European manor, filled with antique furniture and rugs.

The library is open to the public and the staff is willing to help any serious researcher. Their address and hours of operation can be found with their on-line catalog at http://bell.lib.umn.edu or call (612)624-1528.

There are probably more libraries with rare holdings within a one day drive of Chicago. Do you know any? Check with your alma mater and write a short article.

Carl Wolf

Important Dates

February	**9**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Mark Wieclaw on *The Tetradrachms of Roman Egypt*
March	**9**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*
March	**18-20**	11th Annual Chicago Paper Money Expo (CPMX) at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont. Admission is $5 for Friday and Saturday; free on Sunday.
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Show and Tell

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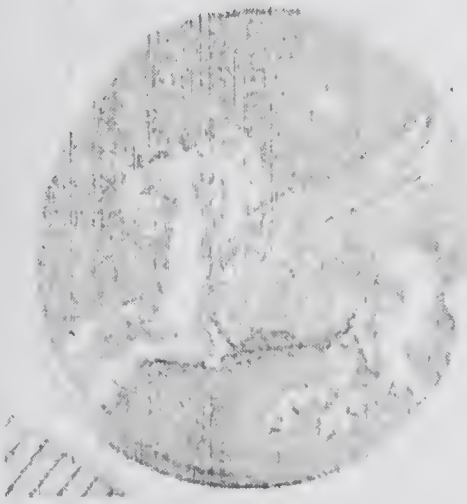
1. **Steve Zitowsky** showed items from the cold North Atlantic region.
    - Four tokens issued in 1993 by a Russian mining company on Spitsbergen, a Norwegian territory in the far north Atlantic. The 10, 25, and 50 ruble pieces are copper-nickel clad steel, while the 100 rubles piece is aluminum bronze.
    - Three coins from Greenland, dated 1926 and minted in Copenhagen; the common design shows a polar bear on obverse and coat of arms on the reverse. The denominations are 25 ore, 50 ore, and 1 krone. In 1940, 40,000 of the 25 ore pieces were withdrawn, holed at the U.S. mint in Philadelphia, and sent back to Greenland for use as 5 krone pieces.
    - A 1944 5 krone of Greenland, but minted at the U.S. mint in Philadelphia
    - A 1922 50 ore token from the Cryolite Mining & Trading Co. in Ivigtut, Greenland. Greenland is the only natural source of Cryolite, a fluoride of sodium and aluminum.

    - Four meal tokens (unlisted) from the Narssarssuaq Air Base. This one is for *Middag*, while the others are for *Frokost*, *Kaffe m/brod*, and *Morgenmad*. They are uniface, rectangular with a a small central hole, and each piece has a different color in the incuse elements.

2. **Don Dool** showed some Swedish copper coins issued in lieu of silver pieces during the period 1715-1719.
    - A 1 daler piece with the letters SM on the reverse standng for Silver Money.
    - Most of the 10 pieces dated 1718 and showing such mythical figures as Jupiter, Phoebus, Mars, and Mercury. Supposedly, an eleventh piece exists bearing the bust of the person responsible for this series, but he was tried for treason and executed. The people accepted these copper "good for silver" pieces for only a short time.
3. **Mark Wieclaw** showed some very old and very new items:
    - A silver stater from 341-317 BC Syracuse, featuring Pagasus flying on the reverse with a helmeted head of Athena on the obverse (along with the name Syracuse).



    - A silver tetradrachm of Gordian III (238-244 AD) from Alexandria, Egypt. His bust appears on the obverse, while a standing eagle appears on the reverse.

- One of Mark's "fun" collecting areas is the lead seals used on boxes of U.S. silver Eagles. He had shown some in the past, and here he showed two:
  - "2004" and "W" (for the West Point mint facility) appear on opposite sides, and the box contained an "inspected by" tag dated November 8, 2004.
  - "2005" and "WP" (for the West Point mint facility) appear on opposite sides, and the box contained an "inspected by" tag dated November 2, 2004.

  Proving that some 2005 pieces were processed before the last of the 2004 pieces.
- Mark handles many pieces worth only bullion at work, and he watches for interesting pieces such as his displayed type set of four barely identifiable half dollars.

4. **Lyle Daly** started by showing a U.S. nickel three cent piece dated 1869 and having obvious clash marks. One of the intended uses of this coin was to purchase one postage stamp at the first class rate. Then Lyle showed a pamphlet, from the American Antiquarian Society in 2002, showing the present worth of a dollar from different years; and the pamphlet shows three cents in 1869 as being worth 37 cents, which just happens to be the current first class stamp price.

Birthday and Year Joined

February	2 Tillie Boosel	
February	9 Steven G. Zitowsky	1991
February	16 Donald H. Dool	1998
February	25 Walter Pershke	1968
February	27 Ronald Martino	1991

Our 1034th Meeting

Date:	February 9, 2005
Time:	7:00 PM
Location:	Downtown Chicago At the Chicago Bar Association (CBA), 321 S. Plymouth Court, in the Albert F. Holfeld Room on the 5th floor. *Please remember the security measures at our meeting building:* ***everyone*** *must show their photo-ID at the security desk.*
Featured speaker:	Mark Wieclaw - *The Tetradrachms of Roman Egypt* The reverse designs will be emphasized during this program. Coins beginning with Nero and up through Numerian will be shown.

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March, 2005

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Chicago Coin Club

Volume 51 No. 3 **March 2005**

Minutes of the 1034th Meeting

The 1034th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Robert Feiler with 16 members present. The January minutes as published in the *Chatter* were approved. A motion was made and passed to approve Treasurer Steven Zitowsky's January report of $296.00 in revenue and $154.79 in expenses. After Winston Zack's application for junior membership received a second reading a motion was made and passed that he be accepted into the Club.

Carl Wolf gave a brief description on upcoming featured speakers prior to First V.P. Jeff Rosinia's introduction of Mark Wieclaw, the meeting's featured speaker. Mark spoke on *The Tetradrachms of Roman Egypt*, showed a number of fine numismatic specimens, and showed several major references. After answering several questions, Jeff presented Mark with an engraved Club speaker's medal and an ANA Speaker Certificate.

Exhibitors for the evening were:

- Phil Carrigan: Florida United Numismatists auction reminisces and an 1894 restrike of an 1794 copper one half penny of the Copper Company of Upper Canada;
- Chuck Jacobs: 12-coins showing imagery of Buddhism;
- Mark Wieclaw: a selection of ancient Roman Coins;
- Steve Huber: South American coins, a German Thaler and the story of participating in dismantling the National Collection in The Smithsonian;
- Robert Leonard: 3-gold coins of Italy from the 13th and 14th century;
- Robert Feiler: 5-pieces of numismatic memorabilia;
- Don Dool: early dated copper coinage;
- Steve Zitowsky: 2-medals issued in 1921 and 1932 from Hollywood advertising movies, plus a Roman Republic coin of 1849.

Under old business Jeff Rosinia and Carl Wolf reported no development on meeting sites that would reduce rental expense. Steve Huber volunteered to investigate purchasing audio visual equipment for exclusive club use to reduce rental expense. Jeff Rosinia reported that a subject had not been chosen for the Chicago Paper Money Expo souvenir card. Robert Leonard reported that the Togo stones had arrived for the Chicago International Coin Fair souvenir card and he would soon begin writing the article.

Under new business Treasurer Zitowsky reminded everyone to pay their 2005 dues. President Feiler delivered a short State of the Club Speech and asked everyone to bring at least one new member to the Club during 2005. Dr. Saul Needleman announced that he had submitted a proposal to the Board of Directors to issue another book as a fund raising project. Carl Wolf reported the ANA Convention Director Brenda Bishop visited Chicago last week and discussed the possibility of Chicago hosting the 2009 convention. A motion made by Robert Leonard to donate $50.00 to the American Numismatic Society's Francis D. Campbell Library Chair in memory of those members who passed away in 2004. The motion passed.

Don Dool who provided audio visual equipment to view material on the television announced he would be in Argentina during the March meeting and the Club would have to make other arrangements.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Carl Wolf
Secretary

Speaker's Wor[l]d
The Tetradrachms of Roman Egypt

Presented by Mark Wieclaw to our February 9, 2005 meeting.

Over 500 locations are known to have issued Roman Provincial coinage, but only three cities, Caesarea in Capodocia, Antioch, and Alexandria, were located near a source of silver. While silver coins are known from many mints, these three cities were the steadiest issuers of silver Provincial coins.

Alexandria was the major city of Egypt when the Roman Emperor Augustus defeated Cleopatra and took Egypt *as his personal property.* All

Egyptian exports also were the property of the Roman emperor; since the Nile valley was the major source of wheat for the entire Mediterranean area, Egypt provided a nice income to many emperors before control was yielded to the government.

The onset of Roman rule saw an increase in the silver in the Alexandrian coins. The severely debased tetradrachms (only 3-5% silver) of Cleopatra were replaced with the 30% silver coinage of Augustus. The Alexandrian silver coins were debased at about the same rate as the coins back in Rome: to about 25% fine under Claudius, down to the 6% silver consistency of billon under Tiberius who issued the the first Roman Alexandrian tetradrachms, and finally down to 1% for the last tetradrachms under Diocletian. It is believed that from Tiberius to Nero, one denarius was melted down and mixed with copper to obtain the metal needed for one tetradrachm.

The typical design showed the emperor on the obverse; very few women appeared on their own coins. One was Julia Mamea, the mother of Septimus Severus, and another was Severina who was in charge for a period after the murder of her husband Aurelian.

An eagle is the most commonly found reverse of a Roman Alexandrian tetradrachm. Among the other reverses Mark showed were a galley under sail, Zeus, and some other deities. This tetradrachm of Phillip II, 244-249AD, shows Zeus on the reverse.

In addition to the gradual quality decline over time, Mark showed coins demonstrating the decline during a single emperor. (And then the following emperor would start by issueing a coinage which, although better than the recent coinage of the previous emperor, was not always as good as the earliest coinage of the previous emperor.) Two coins of Philip II, from regnal years 3 and 6, show the nearly the same obverse and

reverse devices, but the later coin's darker color is an obvious indication of its lower silver content.

The regnal years were identified with a combination of Egyptian and Greek symbols, instead of Roman numerals. Consider the characters **LIB** indicating the twelfth year of a reign: the **L** is the Egyption heiroglyphic for "year," while the Greek letters **I** and **B** represent ten and two, respectively.

Mark showed a coin of Gallienus with rough edges, but it is one of the last of the large-sized pieces.

Then he showed a later coin of Gallienus with the same general obverse and reverse designs but on a markedly smaller planchet. Another sign of the final decline of this coinage is that the later portraits of all emperors look the same; on these coins, the legends must be examined to identify the emperor.

There are several reference books on the subject. The most definitive study is by Dattari, published in 1901, with reprints occasionally available. The text is in Italian and only a small percentage of varieties are pictured. In 1999, a limited run of hardbound copies were printed of the pencil rubbings of the entire Dattari collection.

A new reference by J.G. Milne was written in 1927, correcting some of the errors that appeared in Dattari. The text is in English and has been reprinted several times. More recently (1954) James W. Curtis authored a book that updated the works of both Dattari and Milne. A 1990 reprint also includes several auction and mail bid sales of Roman Egypt coins so that collectors may see what value these coins have achieved.

Important Dates

March	**9**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Douglass F. Rohrman on *Exciting Changes at the American Numismatic Society*
March	**18-20**	11th Annual Chicago Paper Money Expo (CPMX) at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont. Admission is $5 for Friday and Saturday; free on Sunday.
March	**19**	CCC Meeting - 1pm at the Chicago Paper Money Exposition, which is held at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 N. River Road, Rosemont, IL. No admission charge for our meeting. Featured Speaker - Mark Anderson on *Hard Times in a Small Town Bank*
April	**13**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Alex Molinas on *Coin Grading Perspectives*
April	**22-24**	30th Annual Chicago International Coin Fair (CICF) at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont. Admission is $5 for Friday and Saturday; free on Sunday.
April	**23**	CCC Meeting - 1pm at the Chicago International Coin Fair (CICF), which is held at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. No admission charge for our meeting. Featured Speaker - *to be announced*
May	**11**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*

Birthday and Year Joined

April	1 Charles J. Ryant, Jr.	
April	12 Mark Wieclaw	1991
April	15 Robert D. Leonard, Jr.	1983
April	15 Charles Menard	1995
April	27 Don Valenziano	1982

Show and Tell

Each image has a scale in the lower-left corner, with the tics spaced 1 mm apart. Because the brightness and contrast were manipulated on a computer, the coloring of a coin's image differs from the coin's actual coloring.

1. **Phil Carrigan** reported on the FUN show auctions: ANR held one of the two pre-show auctions, and the official show auction by Heritage had 16,000 lots in 20 pounds of catalogues. Phil collects Canadian material, and a piece he was interested in was hammered down at a price much higher than expected during the ANR auction; two mail bidders competed against each other, and Phil thought that the catalogue description might have played a part. Although the long and detailed catalogue description never said "restrike," a specialist would know the piece to be a restrike from the description. An estimated 10 original strikes of Breton #721 are known versus about 50 known restrikes struck in 1894.
   The following days saw joking about dealers with that piece in stock who would have to reprice their stock. But then Phil met Tony Terranova who said that his example was not repriced, so Phil showed us his latest acquisition.
2. **Chuck Jacobs** showed coins and medals showing items related to Buddhism:
   - A 1968 India coin with a lotus blossum.
   - A 1993 Sri Lanka coin (honoring the 2300th anniversary of Buddha's birth) with a tree leaf.
   - An 1847 Cambodia coin showing temples and monuments at Ankor Wat.
   - A 2001 Cambodia coin with a hologram of Ankor Wat.
   - A 100 BC tetradrachm from the Kingdom of Kushnan (near modern day Kandahar) with a standing Buddha looking much like a Greek statue.
   - A 1999 China coin showing a personification of Buddha.
   - A 2000 Sierra Leone coin with a seated Buddha.
   - A Nepal 0.3 gram gold bullion coin.
   - A 1930 fantasy piece with Tibetan markings.
   - A 2001 China coin commemmorating its 1951 occupation of Tibet.
   - A 1987 medal from the National Center for Buddhism, in Indiana.
3. **Mark Wieclaw** showed some ancient coins along with some original packaging for bullion pieces.
   - The Austrian gold bullion coin is the 100 Coronas, and Mark has handled many at the store. But a recent deal included many rolls

of 50 coins, and Mark showed one of the (empty) original paper rolls he kept.
    - A double sestertius of Trajian acquired from the Gemini Sale; the bust has a radiate crown and weighs 47.8 grams.
    - A denarius of Macrinus from 217. Macrinus was the last of the Severan dynasty.

    - A Macrinus antoninianus (double denarius) from 217 Rome; note the radiate head.
4. **Steve Huber** was preparing for a business trip to Central America so he passed around a tray of six dollar-sized pieces from Central and South America along with an 1804 German taler with a *St. George slaying the dragon* reverse. Steve is known to like the crown sized silver pieces from around the world, and that reputation led to an interesting experience: viewing and handling the coins while helping to dismantle the National Numismatic Collection at the Smithsonian Institute. The plexiglass case lids were scratched, mounting paraffin was still on the back of some pieces, and the pieces were returned to the marked envelopes or boxes from which they had been removed forty-some years ago when the pieces had been put into the display cases; the packaging was yellowed, and Steve could not believe that they were sulfer-free. Bottom line: the SI's collection is better than Steve's, but Steve takes better care of his collection.
5. **Bob Leonard** showed the first Medieval European gold pieces to see wide acceptance in trade; the coinage starting European gold coinage. Although they were not made of pure gold as intended, they were at least 23.5 carat.
    - Genoa was the first to issue its gold coin, in 1252, and the first record of gold deniers to the Levant was in 1253. This type, with a gateway on the obverse, was issued from 1252-1280,
    - In November, 1252, Florence was the next to introduce a gold coin. It was four times the weight of Genoa's piece, and showed a flower on one side and John the Baptist, Florence's patron saint, on the other side. In 1308, the Florentines started a book listing each mint master's symbols, but this coin's mark is not listed. This

type was issued from 1252-1382, and this piece is from the Levantine hoard (found in Hungary).
    - In 1284, Venice introduced the ducat. Bob showed one from the 14th century, with the typical design of Saint Mark and the Venetian doge on one side, and Christ within an almond-shaped frame of dots surrounding stars on the other side.
6. **Robert Feiler** showed items received as gifts.
    - At first glance, it is a roll of 1996 U.S. quarters; but a closer examination shows it to be a lighter.
    - The Barnes & Thornburg law firm of South Bend, Indiana annually releases a token; for 2004, the design was based on the "Am I not a man and a brother?" anti-slavery token from the nineteenth century.
    - A check from the Princeton Bank bearing an IRS 2-cent stamp.
    - A National Bank of Mexico one peso note showing both sides of an 1881 Cap & Rays piece.
    - An 1873 South Carolina Railroad Company fare ticket looking like a $1 note.
7. **Don Dool** showed some older European pieces:
    - Saint Martin is shown on a horse on a 1520 copper piece from Utrecht.
    - A San Martin medal known both in silver and silver plated. Tom DeLorey performed a specific gravity test and calculated it at 400 fine silver assuming only silver and copper. Then Don sent it for X-ray analysis; instead of the usual X-ray analysis which only analyzes the surface, X-ray fluorescence looks deeper and estimated 27% silver, 53% copper, 10% nickel, and 9% zinc.
    - A 1621 piece from a German state weighed just 0.4 grams. Performing the specific gravity test was difficult; soap had to be added to the water to break the water's surface tension and let the coin sink. The result was 92% copper and 7% tin, and Don feels that the coin's gray color is due to the tin's being mostly on the surface.
8. **Steve Zitowsky** showed assorted items:
    - A token to promote the 1921 movie *Wet Gold* directed by Ralph Ince.
    - A token to promote the 1932 movie *American Madness* directed by Frank Capra.
    - An 1849-R half-baiducco from the Roman Republic (one of the Italian States). It appears to have been double struck; notice the faint **DIO** under the **R** of the obverse, and the dentils above the **ICA** on the reverse.

Our 1035th Meeting

Date: March 9, 2005, **First session**

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Downtown Chicago
At the Chicago Bar Association (CBA), 321 S. Plymouth Court, in the Albert F. Holfeld Room on the 5th floor. *Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: everyone must show their photo-ID at the security desk.*

Featured speaker: Douglass F. Rohrman - *Exciting Changes at the American Numismatic Society*

The American Numismatic Society (ANS) was organized in 1858 in New York City and has evolved into a preeminent national institution advancing the study of numismatics. Recently, the ANS moved to 96 Fulton Street in Lower Manhattan. The 35,000 square foot former bank building encompasses the world's largest numismatic library (100,000 volumes) located on two full floors and a numismatic collection estimated at 800,000 pieces. Admission is free and the library and coin cabinet are open for research by appointment. Chicago attorney Douglass Rohrman sits on the Board of Trustees, the ANS governing body. Attend this presentation and hear about the new plans and programs on the ANS agenda.

Date: March 19, 2005 **Second session**

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: At the Chicago Paper Money Expo (CPMX), which is held at the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. No admission charge for our meeting.

Featured speaker: Mark Anderson - *Hard Times in a Small Town Bank*

The First National Bank of Grantsburg, Wisconsin was founded in 1905 by Swedish immigrant H.A. Anderson, Mark's grandfather. Join this presentation and hear the story of this bank, its relationship with Wisconsin's agrarian economy and Anderson's struggle to survive hard times and persevere with competing banks. Mark's presentation will show rare numismatic souvenirs and family photos. Collectors attending this program will come away with a perspective and appreciation that every bank note has a unique history and a story with real people.

Chatter Matter

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

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Volume 51 No. 4 April 2005

Minutes of the 1035th Meeting

Session I of the 1035th meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Robert Feiler with 14 present. The only guest for the evening was Douglass Rohrman the featured speaker. The minutes as published in the *Chatter* were approved. Treasurer Steve Zitowsky reported February revenue of $160 and expenses of $611.19, leaving a balance of $8,123.34 in the treasury.

First Vice-President Jeff Rosinia introduced the evening's featured speaker, Douglass Rohrman who spoke on the exciting changes happening at the American Numismatic Society with their new location at 96 Fulton Street in New York. Rohrman spoke at length on the many fine attributes and the depth of knowledge at the ANS and encouraged every member of the CCC to join. Following the twenty minute talk, Jeff Rosinia presented Rohrman with an ANA educational certificate and a CCC engraved speaker's medal.

Exhibitors for the evening were: CHUCK JACOBS: reprint of the auction catalog from the King Farouk collection of 1954 and five Japanese 1938 1-sen pattern coins from that sale purchased by Hans Schulman, then sold to Chuck's father; MARK WIECLAW: four ancient Roman coins; ROBERT LEONARD: a London elephant token with an engraved date; JEFF ROSINIA: 2005 U.S. proof set and the new buffalo nickel; ROBERT FEILER: two 18th century countermarked coins, one from Portugal and another from Brazil.

Under old business Jeff Rosinia spoke on the work being done to secure a meeting room at Bank One. He also spoke on future programs including his hope that someone from the Federal Reserve Bank will agree to speak. Rosinia also showed the proposed souvenir sheet being worked on for the Chicago Paper Money Expo. Robert Leonard spoke of the planned souvenir sheet on primitive money for the Chicago International Coin Fair. The topic will be togo stones from Africa and showed a necklace of small stones that will be broken up and one included with each souvenir. Carl Wolf spoke on his efforts to secure a speaker for the CICF meeting.

Under new business, Bill Burd reported he was in full possession of the club archives and suggested that he may write some articles for the *Chatter*. Jeff Rosinia encouraged the club to sponsor a coin collecting project with the Boy Scouts and other youth groups

The meeting was called to a recess at 8:30 PM to be reconvened at the Chicago Paper Money Expo at 1 PM, Saturday, March 19th.

Session II of the 1035th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 1 PM by President Robert Feiler with forty-two members and guests present.

Mark Anderson from Brooklyn, NY was introduced as the featured speaker. Mark's presentation "Hard Times in a Small Town Bank," dealt with the First National Bank of Grantsburg, Wisconsin, a bank founded by his grandfather. The talk was accented by rare banknote souvenirs and family photographs emphasizing that every bank has a unique personal story. After a question and answer period, Mark was presented with an engraved CCC medal and an American Numismatic Association Educational Certificate.

A warm round of applause was given for Jeff Rosinia, CCC First V.P. following the announcement that he wrote and produced this year's souvenir sheet. It told the history of The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and showed an image of their 1914 $2 national currency note with a battleship on the reverse side. Everyone in attendance received one.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Carl Wolf
Secretary

Speaker's Wor[l]d
Exciting Changes at the American Numismatic Society

Presented by Douglass F. Rohrman to our March 9, 2005 meeting.

Having been at their previous location for almost one hundred years, the ANS' planned move in September 2001 to lower Manhattan was expected to have some surprises and rough moments. The attack on the World Trade Center, located a few blocks away, guaranteed a stretching time line. The move is complete, and ANS Trustee Douglass Rohrman shared his and the ANS'

excitement with their new facilities.

With Bob Leonard and a few other CCC and ANS members adding their own observations along the way, Douglass emphasized the benefits of the new location: twice the library space, a much more secure viewing area and procedures to examine pieces in the collection, and an enlarged display area which should be completed in 2007-8.

The move required a complete inventory, that all objects be identified and traced. With computer-based records, the library should encounter fewer cases of an item appearing in the card catalogue but not in its shelf space - or any shelf space, for that matter. With twice the space, the book collection will be better organized.

Security is an important concern, and no one will be left with material while not with an ANS staff member. Although ANS membership is not required to view items, members will receive preference in case of a line-up. Also, the collections are not for casual viewing: "Stack's was busy, so let me see some Morgan Dollars," will not be a successful request. They are looking for a statement of your research area and goals; serious numismatists only, but *you just might be* a serious numismatist if you are willing to visit New York just for research. Common sense applies, too; contact ANS and make an appointment *before* leaving home.

The catalogueing on the ANS web site suffers from the same shortcomings as its previous versions: different areas were catalogued by different volunteers at different times, so the style and quality varies. It will take time to bring consistency to the descriptions and images available on the web.

Dring the move from the old vault, there were surprise finds of little items that had "fallen through the cracks" of the old cabinets and racks; some still not fully explained. And then there were such tersely described itms as a "Trafalgar collection" which consisted of 40 British medals awarded to combatants at Trafalgar (think of the age of sail and the Napoleonic era); a very important and notable grouping of medals bearing the name of the awardee.

In response to a question, Douglass was not aware of immediate plans to bring to the web the contents of such ANS-published works as *Coinage of the Americas*, or the Monographs.

Dennis Fuller
1941-2004

Dennis was born May 5, 1941 in Oak Park and he was raised in Wheaton, attending grammar and high school there. Dennis resided in Forest Park for a number of years towards the end of his life.

He received a degree in political science from Colorado State University in 1963.

Unbeknown to most of us was the fact that Dennis was a championship long distance runner in college. One of his greatest achievements was beating the renowned distance runner Billy Mills who proceeded in 1964 to become a gold medalist. Dennis beat him not once but twice!

In 1964 Dennis was in one of the first regular Army units sent to Viet Nam where he served proudly as a member of the 1st Air Calvary.

Lack of job prospects and employment marketability motivated him to go back to college and acquire a second degree, this time in accounting from Chicago's Loyola University. Dennis used this accounting education to pursue a career as an accountant for a number of well known firms in the Chicago area.

Dennis particularly enjoyed the time he spent a number of years ago as a volunteer working as an assistant high school football coach and trainer.

Most of us are aware that Dennis was an avid numismatist specializing in the Civil War Era. We were not aware that he had an extensive collection of baseball caps from major university and professional football and baseball teams. When he was quite young his father took him to the horse racing track where he became fascinated with the ponies. He remained a big fan of the "sport of kings" throughout his adult life.

Dennis was divorced for many years and had two adult sons from a previous marriage who live out of state. His older brother who also lives out of state is a retired physician. The memorial services held to celebrate Dennis's life were private.

He was a good friend, intelligent with a quick sense of humor and a pleasure to be with. He will be missed by his many friends.

Robert Feiler

Speaker's Wor[l]d
H.A. Anderson, The First National Bank of Grantsburg, and Charter #8444

Presented by Mark Anderson to our March 19, 2005 meeting.

Combining family and banking history, Mark told the story of the bank which, started by his grandfather, survived the depression, and then was sold upon H.A.'s retirement in the 1940s.

Born in small town Sweden in 1874, H.A. Anderson emigrated in 1892 due to a lack of opportunity and compulsory military service. He took the train from Philadelphia to Wheaton, MN where he worked for Nils Nilsson. He also worked odd jobs around other western Minnesota towns such as Tracy and Canby, where he tried to advance through manual labor. He also learned about the real estate market, attaining a day job at the Lund Land Agency of Canby.

In 1902 he married Emma Johnson, also from Sweden, and by early 1903 was a cashier at the bank of Gary, SD. Mark described how the local real estate game was carried out a hundred years ago. But those were small towns with not much future for a banker. When H.A. started looking elsewhere for his American Dream, his good reputation came in handy. With capital provided by Dr. F.H. Wellcome of the Twin Cities, the Bank of Grantsburg, WI was founded as a state bank in 1905; Anderson was Cashier, and Wellcome was President. The bank converted to a National Charter in 1906, with Anderson in charge of day to day operations while Wellcome was president mostly in name only. Grantsburg is located 60 miles north of the Twin Cities, and 7 miles east of St. Croix River.

Mark had slides giving different views of the bank: a two-story wooden building, with large plate glass windows. In one, the advertised dividend to depositors was 4%. Mark mentioned that when he showed this slide in the 1980s, the joke was "What a low rate." Now, that rate does not look so bad. The town of Frederic had the nearest FNB, chartered only one month after H.A.'s bank. They were aggressive in the economic expansion of the 1920s, paying 4½% or 5%, and Mark told how H.A. would deal with a depositor wanting to transfer money to the competition; he would sit down with the depositor at a table with the money in a stack, and say, "You can have all of it, some of it, or keep it here." FNB Frederic failed in late 1931.

The new brick building was built in 1915, and a slide shows dirt streets with hitching posts along the bank. The building now holds the headquarters of the local

electric company; as a side note Mark mentioned that H.A. had at one time turned down a loan application from that company.

Not many Grantsburg notes are known; two Large Size Notes and more than 10 Small Size Notes. The first note - top of sheet number 1 of 10-10-10-20 has the signatures of Anderson as Cashier and Wellcome as President. Another 10, this one from sheet 503, has signatures of Anderson as Cashier and local attorney S.F. Grover as Vice President. Wellcome remained President until his death in 1921, at which time H.A. bought the bank. H.A. was known to pick up notes from the Federal Reserve Bank in the Twin Cities, and then sign a few in a local restaurant before paying for his meal; they don't make bank presidents like that anymore. Mark remembers his own father, Burnett Anderson, saying how he would cut the sheets of notes at the dining room table. Later, Burnett was the Washington correspondent for *Numismatic News*, and on one slow news week, he wrote about his father and the bank. In response, a collector in Michigan wrote about his garage sale purchase of a Small Size Grantsburg 20, with serial number 1. After some work, it ended up back with an Anderson. At that point in the talk, someone from Krause was heard saying that now is a good time for a followup to the earlier article.

Mark still gets back to Grantsburg once or twice every year, and some of the places mentioned in the talk not only still exist, but provide meeting places to hear more stories about H.A.. In 1933, one of President Roosevelt's first actions was to close all banks for a bank holiday, with only those banks successfully examined being allowed to reopen. The local Federal Reserve Bank, phoned the bank at 9:01, and found it open. "Of course were are open; Roosevelt is not a customer or share holder." So the feds drove to Grantsburg, arriving near noon. H.A. met them outside, and took them to the local diner for lunch, to discuss the matter. Service was so slow, that it was near quitting time when they returned to the bank. The bank's records are very terse; Mark cannot determine what business was actually performed that day.

The talk concluded with notes from some of the towns where H.A. had worked; H.A.'s files yielded a Large Size Note from Canby bearing a Lund signature, the same Lund who had hired H.A. back in Canby many years before.

Show and Tell

Presented at our March 9, 2005 meeting.

Each image has a scale in the lower-left corner, with the tics spaced 1 mm apart. Because the brightness and contrast were manipulated on a computer, the coloring of a coin's image differs from the coin's actual coloring.

1. **Chuck Jacobs** reminded us that the King Farouk Auction was held 50 years ago, two years after the king had been deposed. Baldwin created the catalogue and Sotheby ran the auction; Chuck showed a reprint of the auction catalogue. The descriptions were terse, and multiple-items lots predominated: the US 1933 double eagle was in a lot of 10 items, and the US 1913 Liberty nickel was part of the Liberty Nickel collection. In 1938, Japan issued five patterns for the 1 sen coin: some in bronze, some in aluminum; one with a tree leaf, the others with a bird in sun; and in a range of sizes. Jeff showed the five patterns, along with a letter from Hans Schulmann, on letterhead stationery of the Metropolitan Hotel Cairo, offering great deals on lots Hans would break up. That led to other members repeating stories they had heard about the auction's conduct.
2. **Mark Wieclaw** showed some old coins along with some recent coins.
    - An anonymous AE quartuncia of the Roman Republic, 217-215BC. No mark of value on either side, but the obverse shows a head of Roma wearing an Attic helmet and the reverse showa Roma above a ship's prow.
    - A Syrian tetradrachm of Augustus, from Antioch. The reverse shows Tyche seated on rocks, holding a palm branch, with the river god Orontes swimming below.
    - The silver Argentus, approximately equal to one denarius of Nero, was introduced as part of Diocletian's coinage reform. An argentus of Diocletian from Siscia (c.295-295AD) weighs 2.52 grams. The reverse shows four emperors sacrificing over a tripod altar.
    - An argentus of Constantius as Caesar, from 294AD Rome, weighs 3.02 grams. The reverse design is similar the the previous piece's.
    - At the coin shop, US 2004 proof 90% silver halves and quarters have appeared in bullion deals/bags. Mark wondered about the situation, but offered nothing concrete.
    - Also turning up in a bullion deal was a two-headed 1964 half dollar; it did not have a good ring.
3. **Bob Leonard** showed a 1694 London Elephant Token acquired from Balwin. The piece is very worn, and the "John Stagg 1709" engraved on the elephant decreases its attractiveness. Although listed in *The Red Book*, it probably was not made for use in the American Colonies. Bob has identified neither John Stagg nor the significance of 1709, but he continues his research.
4. **Jeff Rosinia** showed a 2005 US proof set, and then passed around a roll of the new US nickels (with Jefferson and a Bison), letting each member keep one coin.
5. **Robert Feiler** showed two similar-sized coins.
    - A 1775 Portuguese 10 Reis coin with an Arms of Portugal counterstamp.
    - An 1823 Brazilian coin with the Bahia mintmark, with an unidentified overstrike.

International Primitive Money Society to Meet at CICF, 4PM on April 23

Indigenous Trade Jewelry of Africa

Chuck Mitton, a collector and student of African currency for more than thirty years, will speak before the International Primitive Money Society (IPMS) at the Chicago International Coin Fair. The meeting will take place on Saturday, April 23 at 4 PM.

A popular way to show wealth in Africa comes in the form of jewelry, primarily beads. Since the dawn of mankind Africans adorned their bodies with all sorts of indigenous materials made from stones, eggshells, seeds, nuts, shells, bones, tusks and teeth. Ornaments add beauty, provide a contrasting color against dark skin and accentuate body movement. Nowhere are ornaments as admired and highly-prized as they are in Africa. It's only natural that body ornaments evolved from decoration, to desirable commodity, to trade item and then a medium of exchange. Even in 2005, many African societies still accept and welcome ornaments as a trade items.

Join Chuck Mitton at this fascinating talk illustrated with specimens from his collection. All collectors are welcome and membership in the IPMS is not required. Afterwards, interested attendees will go to dinner and exchange more information on primitive money collecting. Those who wish to participate should contact Carl Wolf at carlwolfco@msn.com.

Our 1036th Meeting

Date:	April 13, 2005, **First session**
Time:	7:00 PM
Location:	Downtown Chicago At the Chicago Bar Association (CBA), 321 S. Plymouth Court, in the Albert F. Holfeld Room on the 5th floor. *Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: **everyone** must show their photo-ID at the security desk.*
Featured speaker:	Alex Molinas - *Coin Grading Perspectives* Professionally involved in numismatics since 1988, Alex Molinas recently joined the international coin department at Harlen J. Berk Ltd.. Previously, Alex graded coins at the Numismatic Guaranty Corp (NGC) in Florida. Members attending this presentation will receive a

greater understanding of the technical aspects in coin grading and how it equates to the retail market. Alex will explain what professional grading services look at and how they weigh each factor in a grade. General comments on strike, luster and cleaning will also be covered.

Date: April 23, 2005 **Second session**

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: At the Chicago International Coin Fair (CICF), which is held at the Crown Plaza Chicago O'Hare, formerly the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. No admission charge for our meeting.

Featured speaker: Clyde Hubbard, Cuernavaca, Mexico - *The First Coinage of the Americas, Mexico City 1536*

With the rapid increase in commerce of New Spain after the conquest, the need for a mint became urgent. It wasn't until May 11, 1535, however, that a royal cédula was issued, and the mint began operation the following year. Silver reales and copper maravedies, in eight denominations, were minted in the name of Carolus et Johanna (Charles I of Spain and Joan the Mad) as late as 1556. Mr. Hubbard will illustrate obverse and reverse of the major types and issues, and describe hoards of these coins, including a recent find in Cuba. Mr. Hubbard co-authored *A Guide Book of Mexican Coins*, co-authored the definitive study of 1824 eight reale coins and published in 1967 his first paper on the coinage of 1536.

Of interest to collectors of primitive money, every attendee receives a replica of Togo Stone Money accompanied by an original article giving the story of this little-known and fascinating currency. Since 1989, the CCC issued a primitive money souvenir with an original article to commemorate their CICF meeting. This 16th issue is written by CCC and IPMS member Robert

Important Dates

Our April meeting will consist of two sessions: we will end the first session with a recess (instead of an adjournment), and we will reconvene for the second session at the Chicago International Coin Fair.

April 13 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Alex Molinas on *Coin Grading Perspectives*

April 22-24 30th Annual Chicago International Coin Fair (CICF) at the Crown Plaza Chicago O'Hare, formerly the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont. Admission is $5 for Friday and Saturday; free on Sunday.

April 23 CCC Meeting - 1pm at the Chicago International Coin Fair (CICF), which is held at the Crown Plaza Chicago O'Hare, formerly the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. No admission charge for our meeting.
Featured Speaker - Clyde Hubbard on *The First Coinage of the Americas, Mexico City 1536*

April 23 International Primitive Money Society Meeting - 4pm at the Chicago International Coin Fair (CICF), which is held at the Crown Plaza Chicago O'Hare, formerly the Holiday Inn O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. No admission charge for the meeting.
Chuck Mitton on *Indigenous Trade Jewelry of Africa*

May 11 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*

Birthday and Year Joined

May 2	Donn Pearlmann	1979
May 8	Sharon Blocker	2000
May 10	Marty Vink	1952
May 11	William A. Burd	1993
May 11	Jeffrey Rosinia	1995
May 15	Jay M. Galst	1991
May 17	Paul R. Hybert	1994
May 23	Robert J. Weinstein	1991

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Our 1037th Meeting

Date:	May 11, 2005
Time:	7:00 PM
Location:	Downtown Chicago **New Location!** At Dearborn Center, 131 S. Dearborn, 6th Floor, Conference Room 6A (right off the elevator lobby). *Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: give a club officer the names of all your guests prior to the meeting day; and* ***everyone*** *must show their photo-ID and register at the guard's desk.*
Featured speaker:	- *to be announced*

Minutes of the 1036th Meeting

The 1036th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 7:10 PM by President Robert Feiler with nineteen members and guests present. Guests for the evening were Shari Zack and Joel Edler. The March Minutes were approved as published in the *Chatter*. Treasurer Steve Zitowsky reported March revenue of $384.00 and expenditures of $590.78.

The speaker for the evening was Alex Moulinas on the subject of *Coin Grading Perspectives*. Professionally involved in numismatics since 1988, Moulinas also graded coins for the Numismatic Guaranty Corp. In addition to sharing some of his experiences, Moulinas answered many questions from the members.

It was announced that the Central States Numismatic Society (CSNS) will honor the Chicago Coin Club for 50-years of membership. This will be done at the upcoming CSNS show in St. Louis, MO. Cliff Mishler planned to attend the show, and he was asked to accept the award on behalf of the club.

Exhibitors for the evening were: Dr. Saul B. Needleman: 17 euro coins in six denominations and from four countries; Steve Huber: a 1901 Japanese yen and three Gedanken talers from 1914-15; Robert D. Leonard: programs from 2005

ANA mid-year convention in Kansas City and a gold tenth-ounce American eagle coin won as an Early Bird prize in Bowers and Merena's numismatic survey; Chuck Jacobs: five coins from Hong Kong and minted in England; Mark Wieclaw: two ancient Roman coins, an ancient Greek coin and two American Colonial tokens; John Connolly: U.S. proof sets showing doubling of letters; Robert Feiler: www.wheresgeorge.com $1.00 federal reserve note, a token from Fargo, ND, a $7.00 and an $8.00 colonial bill from Rhode Island dated July 2, 1780 and two restrikes from the French Mint of Castorland jetons; Don Dool: five medals showing monuments outside Argentina dedicated to San Martin; and Lyle Daly: a $2-1/2 U.S. gold piece with a die clash, two ancient numia pieces from Byzantium, a falus dated 1865 from Morocco and 3 elongated cents from Chicago's Century of Progress Exposition in 1933.

Prior to a break so members could view the exhibits, member Clifford Mishler, Iola, WI announced that the Numismatists of Wisconsin plan to celebrate their 45th anniversary May 21, 2005 in Iola. A flyer announcing all the activities was passed out and Club members were invited to attend. Due to the commercial nature of the announcement, Cliff brought two apple pies from the Crystal Café in Iola. The pies were a welcome refreshment during the exhibit viewing and a Cliff received a round of applause.

Under old business, Chuck Jacobs and Lyle Daly from BankOne reported of a possible meeting room at no cost to the Club. Members were advised to watch the next *Chatter* and/or the Club's web site for this possible change. A moment of silence was held for Herb Schingoethe who passed away in March. Herb and Martha Schingoethe were from Aurora, IL and allowed images of their obsolete notes to be used for the Club's souvenir currency project. R.M. Smyth's Auction Catalog II of their collection was made available to members at the meeting. The Club's souvenir sheet from the Chicago Paper Money Expo was displayed and made available for $5.00 each. Jeffrey Rosinia, the author, received a warm round of applause. Robert Leonard reported on his project of writing the story of Togo Stone Money that will become the souvenir of the Club's meeting at the Chicago International Coin Fair (CICF) on April 23rd. The speaker for the CICF meeting will be Clyde Hubbard, Cuernavaca, Mexico on the subject *The First Coinage of the Americas, Mexico City 1536*. Members with unwanted auction catalogs were encouraged to bring them to the Club's table at the CICF where they will be sold.

Under new business, President Feiler announced that member Russ Wajda suffered a heart attack, but was recuperating. Feiler also announced an upcoming Board meeting to discuss survey results, possible scholarship, publication of a book and video.

Don Dool commented on a recent trip to Argentina and his visits at several museums. He announced that he had photographs of numismatic material on his laptop computer and would be available after the meeting to share them with interested members.

The meeting was recessed at 9:11 PM and will be called to order again at 1 PM on Saturday, April 23rd at the Chicago International Coin Fair, Crown Plaza Chicago O'Hare, 5440 North River Road, Rosemont, IL.

Session II of the 1036th meeting was called to order at 1 PM by President Robert Feiler with 31 members and 31 guests in attendance. The meeting was held in conjunction with the Chicago International Coin Fair, Crown Plaza Hotel, Rosemont. President Feiler announced the new club meeting site at Dearborn Center, 131 S. Dearborn, 6th Floor, Conference Room 6A, Downtown Chicago.

First V.P. Jeff Rosinia introduced featured speaker, Clyde Hubbard of Cuernavaca, Mexico. Mr. Hubbard's presentation "The First Coinage of America, Mexico City, 1536", used dual slide projectors to simultaneously show the obverse and reverse sides on 27 coins. Hubbard has lived in Mexico for 60-years and shared his collecting experiences of this series. Afterwards he made available a 14-page handout. Rosinia presented him with an engraved Club medal and an educational certificate from the American Numismatic Association.

Jerry Lebo, Secretary-Treasurer, Central States Numismatic Society (CSNS), presented the Chicago Coin Club with a fifty-year membership medal. President Feiler accepted the medal on behalf of the Club.

Robert Leonard was given a round of applause for his dedication in authoring his 16th primitive money souvenir card for the Club and presented with serial no. 3 of the Togo Stone Money card. Speaker Hubbard was presented with no. 2 of the series. The Club Archivist wasn't present for presentation of serial no. 1. Several members assisted in dispensing a souvenir card to everyone in attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Carl Wolf
Secretary

Birthday and Year Joined

June 7	Harlan J. Berk	1995
June 11	Joseph A. Piekarczyk	1991
June 12	Rosalind Ryant	1977
June 27	James Simek	1973

Speaker's Wor[l]d
Coin Grading Perspectives

Presented by Alex Moulinas to our April 13, 2005 meeting.

Coin grading services and their slabs are a fixture in contemporary US numismatics, and they are expanding into world coins. Alex Moulinas, now with the international coin department at Harlen J. Berk Ltd. but previously a grader with one of the grading services, started the program by giving an overview of how the services grade; then members asked questions of Alex, sometimes with spirited followup discussions by the members.

A number of skills were discussed from how to look at a coin, when to use magnification, and what magnification to use.

A wide range of topics also were discussed, including: the grading practices of European dealers and such US specialty clubs as the Early American Coppers (EAC), attribution and other blunders on slabs, net grading of coins with damage, and even such recent coin-doctor tricks as laser-improved proof gold.

Had a few laughs and learned some new things; you should have been there for this frank presentation and discussion on grading.

Important Dates

May 11 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*

Our June meeting will consist of two sessions: we will end the first session with a recess (instead of an adjournment), and we will reconvene for the second session at the Chicago International Coin Fair.

June 8 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*

June 24-26 MidAmerica Coin Expo at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. Admission is $5.

June 25 CCC Meeting - 1pm at the MidAmerica Coin Expo, which is held at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. No admission charge for our meeting.
Featured Speaker - David Sundman on *19th Century 3-D Slides of the U.S. Mint*

July 13 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*

Speaker's Wor[l]d
Coins of Charles and Johanna Struck in the First Mint of the Americas in Mexico City 1536-1572

Presented by Clyde Hubbard to our April 23, 2005 meeting.

The program started with a brief history lesson, covering the Spanish conquest of Mexico (1519-1521), the establishment of a city government in Mexico City in 1524, and the arrival of the first Viceroy in 1535. A mint was authorized in 1535, and the mint produced its first coins in 1536. Both a silver coinage and a copper coinage were authorized, with the silver pieces denominated in reales and the copper in maravedis, with 34 maravedis equal to one real.

During 37 years the Mexico City mint produced coinage in the name of Charles and his mother Joan (the Mad). Joan was the daughter of Ferdinand V and Isabel I who had sponsored Columbus' voyages to the western hemisphere. She had married Philip I, Archduke of Austria, and their first son, Charles, born in 1500, was King Charles I of Spain from 1516 to 1556. (When he was Emperor of Germany from 1519 to 1556, Charles was also known as Charles V.) Because Charles spoke no Spanish when he arrived in Spain with a large Flemish retinue, Spaniards insisted that his mother, although incompetent to rule, be joint ruler at least in name. That is why the decree authorizing the mint in Mexico is signed *I THE QUEEN. By Order of His Majesty*, and that is why the coins include *Carolus et Iohana* as part of the legend.

Although both copper and silver coins were produced, the copper pieces were not very popular then and are not readily available now. Copper coins are known in the 2 and 4 maravedis denominations. These silver coins are not cobs! The cobs are a later coinage. Although these coins are fairly consistent in thickness, shape, and fineness (93% silver), the weight of an individual coin was not specified. But 67 reales were to be made from one *mark* (230 grams) of silver.

The dies were made by punching elements of the design, not by engraving. The first letter punches were of Gothic type, and when broken were replaced by Latin type. On the silver pieces, the obverse has a shield of Spain: a castle in the top left and bottom right represent Castile, and the lions in the top right and bottom left represent Leon. The obverse has two crowned columns representing the Pillars of Hercules, as the passage between the Atlantic and

Mediteranean is known. The 37 years of undated silver coinage in the name of Charles and Joan is grouped into two series: an early series (1536-1542) and a late series (1542-1572).

For the 1 real and larger pieces, check the area below the columns on the reverse to distinguish the early series from the late series (the pillars do not appear on the fractional pieces). Waves appear below the columns on the late series, but no waves appear on the early series. The assayer initials appearing on the early issues are **R**, **G**, **F**, and **P**; and silver coins were made in the denomiations of ¼, ½, 1, 2, 3, and 4 reales. The assayer initials appearing on the late issues are **G**, **A**, **R**, **S**, **L**, and **O**; and silver coins were made in the denomiations of ½, 1, 2, and 4 reales.

The mintmark of either **M** or **Mo** indicates Mexico City. Sometimes the positions (aside the pillars) for the mintmark and assayer's initial were swapped, and sometimes a letter would be punched in upside down. Clyde's slides showed those errors as well as a wrong shield; the two lions representing Leon were swapped with the two castles representing Castile. And there were many different attempts at spelling the same legend.

Clyde spent some time explaining why the copper coins were unpopular, even though refusing to accept them in payment was punishable by 100 lashes. Spaniards paid coppers to natives, but the Spaniards would not accept the coppers when selling beef to the natives, ignoring the law. The natives threw the copper coins into the lake; many were found 50 years ago during excavations for the new airport.

Nesmith's *The Coinage of the First Mint of the Americas at Mexico City 1536-1572* published by the ANS in 1955 is a recommended work. Although recent hoards have changed the rarity ratings, the methodology is still used. The obverse and reverse design determine the Nesmith number, then look at the obverse and reverse legends.

Having been involved with coins for many years, Clyde was around when some large hoards and accumulations came to the market; he had some good stories about them. When rebuilding a shrine in Mexico City in the 1950s, a hoard of over 3,000 pieces was found; 2,000 were of Charles I. Brief mention was made of a hoard recently discovered (in Cuba?), but Clyde never did get around to finishing that story. Or, maybe he told it to those who stayed after the meeting?

Those attending the meeting received a heavily illustrated 14-page handout prepared by Clyde.

Show and Tell

Presented at our April 13, 2005 meeting.

Each image has a scale in the lower-left corner, with the tics spaced 1 mm apart. Because the brightness and contrast were manipulated on a computer, the coloring of a coin's image differs from the coin's actual coloring.

1. **Saul Needleman** showed a number of Euro coins, and that lead to observations on the changing designs. The coins ranged over many denominations, from a one cent copper piece to a 2 Euros bimetallic piece. Saul pointed out that each denomination has a unique edge treatment: there are grooves about ¼-inch apart on the 20 cent, and large reeding is on the 50 cent. For the Euro's first years, each denomination's design was supposed to be similar across all countries, with the denomination very large on one side; some recent pieces have more individualistic designs.
2. **Steve Huber** showed two world silver coins and three *gedanken* talers:
    - A 1901 1 yen from Japan lists its silver weight and purity. It was intended to be an international trade coin.
    - An 1874 5 franc from France's Third Republic period; this coin is in a very nice condition, and the slab's grade agrees.
    - A 1914 Hindenburg piece; the reverse shows a warrior wrestling a giant.
    - A 1914 General v.Kluck piece; on the reverse, a nude fiery rides a horse towards Paris.
    - A 1915 piece for General v.Mackensen, the eastern front commander.
3. **Robert Leonard** attended the recent ANA convention in Kansas City, and he showed us the program, exhibit guide, and numismatic theater programs. Those were much smaller than the ones for the typical summer convention, and Bob estimated the bourse at about two thirds the size of the summer bourse (Steve Huber placed it at about one third). There might have been one international dealer, unlike the summer when there is a good number.
   Heritage conducts a collector survey each year, and holds a prize drawing among the responders; although responding every year, Bob never won. This year Bowers & Merena had a survey with a drawing, and Bob showed his tenth ounce (gold) eagle early bird prize.
4. **Chuck Jacobs** showed some early early small-denomination pieces from Hong Kong, which the British created in 1842 after winning the first opium war, and expanded after succeeding wars.
    - An 1863 1 mil Pattern (small); the denomination of one-thousandth of a dollar was known as one cash or *wen*.
    - An 1863 1 mil Pattern (large).
    - An issued 1863 1 mil piece.

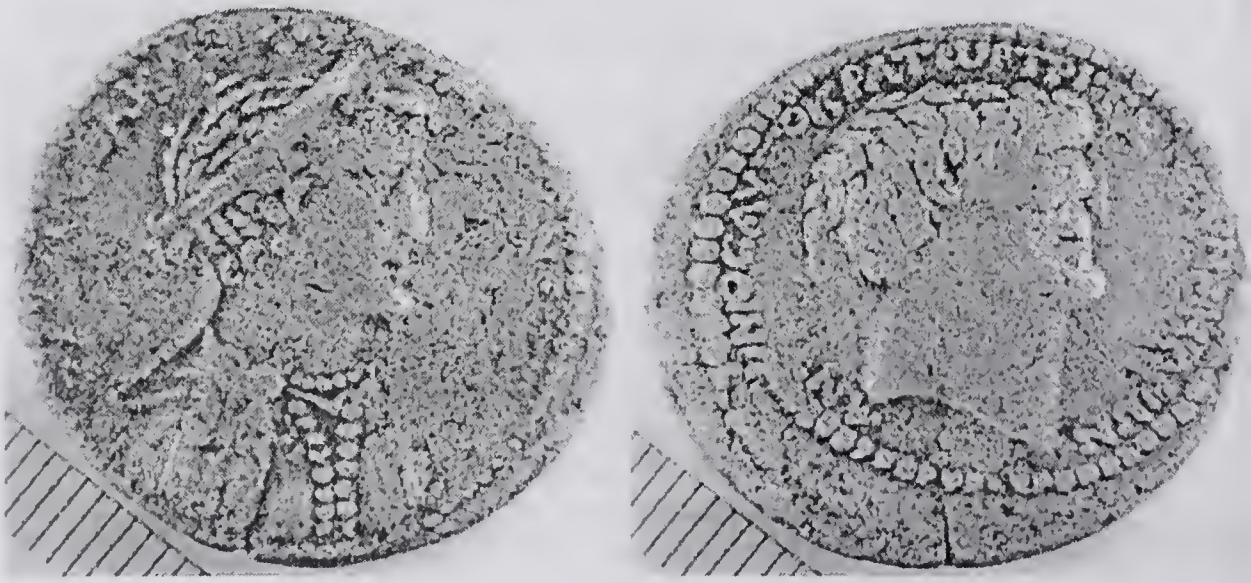
- An 1866 1 mil piece with the wrong Chinese character used: it says "one thousand" instead of "one-thousandth."
- An 1879 1 cent coin.

Chuck concluded with a recent stamp showing the first 1 mil coin.

5. **Mark Wieclaw** showed two old coins designed by William Wood, then three ancient coins.
   - A 1723 half penny with George I on the obverse and a woman holding a harp on the reverse. Intended for Ireland but not accepted, so they were sent to the American colonies.

A 1723 Rosa Americana penny intended for the American colonies.

   - An antoninianus of Claudius "Gothicus" II with his portrait to the the left; rare for him.
   - A Syrian tetradrachm from 36BC with Cleopatra on the obverse and Mark Anthony on the reverse. At first glance, Mark Anthony's bust looks horrible, as if the die engraver had started with the neck and worked upwards, running out of room after the eyes. But that is wrong; the coin is double struck. Notice the two beaded borders at 8 o'clock, and the faint outline of the back of the head located to the left of the neck.



- A silver didrachm of Egypt's Ptolemy VI (180-145BC). On the reverse, an eagle stands on thunderbolts bearing the letters **PH** for year 108.

6. **John Connolly** looks for varieties and production errors in both circulation and sets from the mint. He showed some recently found examples of strike doubling in proof sets: on an Oregon quarter in a 5-coin set, and on a Kansas quarter in an 11-coin set.
7. **Robert Feiler** brought exhibits covering a wide range:
   - A dollar bill with the Where's George web site's address, http://www.wheresgeorge.com.
   - A semi-circular token from Fargo, ND; the size of half of a half-dollar.
   - Two recent additions to his collection of odd denomination currency: $7 and $8 from Rhode Island, with the date July 2, 1780.
   - Jetons in brass and silver from Castorland, in upstate New York; these modern restrikes are available from the Paris Mint, France.
8. During his recent trip to Argentina, **Don Dool** acquired 66 medals, with 50 for his San Martín collection. Don showed five medals honoring monuments to San Martín located outside of Argentina. Don told how one dealer bought a collection of 10,000 medals, of which 1,000 were related to San Martín; Don bought some of those.
9. **Lyle Daly** is another collector with varied interests. He showed:
   - A 1908 $2½ Indian bought as a type coin, but high magnification showed a die clash.
   - Two Eastern Roman (Byzantine) items from a dealers junk box: a uniface piece of Heraklius Constantine (610-640AD), and a cast coin from a later era.
   - And four items from a flea market: three elongated cents from the 1933 Chicago's World Fair, and a possible rollout from a sportsman show but no sign of the underlying cent is seen.

Chatter Matter

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

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Jeff Rosinia - First Vice President
Lyle Daly - Second Vice President

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Steve Zitowsky
Mark Wieclaw

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Steve Zitowsky - Treasurer
Paul Hybert - Chatter Editor
William Burd - Archivist

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June, 2005

Chatter

Chicago Coin Club

Volume 51 No. 6 **June 2005**

Minutes of the 1037th Meeting

The 1037th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order May 11, 2005 at 7:00 PM by President Robert Feiler with 16 members in attendance. The meeting was held in a new spacious meeting room at Dearborn Center, 131 S. Dearborn, 6th Floor Conference Room 6C. President Feiler thanked members Lyle Daly, Jeff Rosinia and Chuck Jacobs for their work and efforts in obtaining the room and they were given a warm round of applause.

The April Minutes as published in the *Chatter* were approved as published. Steve Zitowsky treasurer's April report of $206 in revenue, expenses of $424.70 and total assets of $7,697.86 was approved.

First V.P. Jeff Rosinia introduced the evening's featured speaker Chuck Jacobs who spoke on *Die Struck Copper Coins of China.*

Second V.P. Lyle Daly introduced the evening's exhibitors: DON DOOL - seven different General San Martin medals; ROBERT LEONARD - report on his research into counterfeit silver dollars made of silver and his article recently published in *Coin World*, two books purchased at the Medieval Conference in Kalamazoo, Michigan; MARK WIECLAW - a Chinese snuff bottle made from agate with a coin design, a 1783 Nova Constellatio cent, a 1787 Fugio cent, a tetradrachm from Akanthus (480-424 B.C.) with unpublished dies of a lion attacking a bull, and comic coins issued by Nat'l. San. Labs, 6652 N. Western, Chicago 45, Illinois; RICHARD HAMILTON - a $1,000 bond from the Beech Creek Railroad and issued in 1892; ROBERT WEINSTEIN - a bronze coin from the Kingdom of Tylis and the Indo-Greek Kingdom, 2 coins from the Byzantine Empire and a fake wooden nickel of Vee Jay Records, Chicago; and ROBERT FEILER - 5 different Mexican reales authenticated by last month's speaker Clyde Hubbard.

President Feiler presented the Club's engraved 50-year membership medal from Central States Numismatic Society to William Burd, Club Archivist. Burd was also given serial no. 1 of the recently produced souvenir cards for the Chicago Paper Money Expo (CPMX) and the Chicago International Coin Fair. Jeff Rosinia, the author of the CPMX souvenir card was presented with

serial no. 3 of the issue.

Jeff Rosinia delivered a brief overview of the membership survey taken in 2004. Robert Weinstein delivered video tapes holding member interviews recorded in 1994 that would be turned over to Jeff Rosinia, who has video editor contacts.

President Feiler brought up for discussion a list of discussed items from the recently held Board of Directors meeting. Subjects included the creation of an updated tri-fold brochure introducing the Club, Daly and Rosinia volunteered to investigate a new design; advertising in The Chatter; a new book project; dropping member's last names in the *Chatter*; a site for the December 14th annual banquet; restarting coin discussion group meetings on the 4th Wednesday that received positive feedback; the archivist writing a 25, 50 and 75 years ago column for the *Chatter*; exhibitors were asked to watch the length of their exhibits and a suggestion was made for members to transform some exhibits into mini-featured talks.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 PM

Respectfully submitted, Carl Wolf
Secretary

Speaker's Wor[l]d
Die-Struck Copper Coinage of China

Presented by Chuck Jacobs to our May 11, 2005 meeting.

Until late in the 19th century, the most common Chinese coin was the cash piece which was round with a square hole. Struck coins appeared in the late 1880s but were not common until about 1902. From 1900 to 1917, about 32 billion of the 10 cash coins were made; this talk concentrated on those coins.

Chuck started his presentation with a review of Chinese history from the late Qing Dynasty through the early Republic era. The 10 cash coin (worth about 1 US cent, but the value varied over time), was the most popular coin of the period. The diameter varied from 28 to 29.5 mm, and the weight from 95 to 124.5 grains (115 on average). Laid out together, a 10 cash coin, a US Large Cent, and a British Penny are all about the same size.

This copper coinage started in the provinces: the Peiyang mint in 1888, and then the Kwantung mint in 1889. By 1906, the central government and 17 provinces were striking coins. The coinage was valued by metal and weight, with even slugs circulating. Some mints would debase the coinage by adding

pewter or lead; the mints were profit enterprises, buying the metal and keeping the seignorage.

The many coins shown during the talk provided a mere hint of the range of varieties out there. Two main causes of varieties were identified: many sources for the dies, and many dies being produced. Although most of the provinces used the dragon motif for some years, die production was not centralized so each province had its own style of dragon. (For example, some dies for Hunan's coins were made in Japan, hence its similarity to the dragon on Japan's one sen coin.) The large number of needed dies must have hard on the engravers: we have misspelling of the English legends, upside down letters (one displayed coin appeared to show signs of a upside down letter under the correctly placed letter), and differences in dragon rendition and position. Those differences let later collectors develop such fanciful names for Hunan varieties as: creeping dragon, comet-tail dragon, ornamented dragon, and high-flying dragon. Some distinguishing attributes are the number of flames on the fireball and the location of protruding scales.

The definitive reference is A.M. Tracey Woodward's 1936 work *The Minted Ten Cash Coins of China*. Only 95 copies were made of this collection of journal articles from the mid 1920s to the early 1930s. Woodward was a doctor who had made his money from the opium trade; he had up to 300 workers sorting through coins looking for new varieties. He built the definitive collection of minted Chinese cash pieces; 5000 or so pieces. Deciding that China was no longer safe, he and his collection moved to France. His collection spent World War II buried somewhere in Bordeaux; after the war, some of the finest pieces ended up in King Farouk's collection, the mid-level pieces went to a specialist, and the common pieces were sold cheaply in bulk lots, destined for dealer junk boxes.

The 10 cash coin was a working coinage with the coin's aesthetics having low priority. No attempt was made at aligning the obverse and reverse dies, and varieties resulted when obverse and reverse dies were combined. The strike quality varied, and the dies were used until they wore out. Although most coins have smooth edges, some have milled edges.

The dragon motif from the Empire was not used often in the Republic era; stars and flags were more commonly used. There are very few coins with people, especially in copper. With 193 varieties known from just Sichuan province, there are more than Woodward's 1200 varieties out there waiting to challenge modern collectors.

Our 1038th Meeting

Date:	June 8, 2005, **First session**
Time:	7:00 PM
Location:	Downtown Chicago At Dearborn Center, 131 S. Dearborn, 6th Floor, Conference Room 6A (right off the elevator lobby). *Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: give a club officer the names of all your guests prior to the meeting day; and* ***everyone*** *must show their photo-ID and register at the guard's desk.*
Featured speaker:	*- to be announced*
Date:	June 25, 2005 **Second session**
Time:	1:00 PM
Location:	At the MidAmerica Coin Expo, at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. No admission charge for our meeting.
Featured speaker:	David Sundman - *19th Century 3-D Slides of the U.S. Mint* Stereo photography was a popular way to view images during the 19th century. It consisted of two separate photos that gave a 3-dimensional effect when superimposed and viewed through special glasses. David Sundman acquired a selection of stereophotos showing the U.S. Mint during the 1800s and has converted them into a slide program. David Sundman will lead this educational tour back in time when the Mint was striking Indian cents, Shield nickels, and Seated Liberty coinage. Those who attend will be given a special pair of viewing glasses and, while supplies last, a bag of popcorn.

Show and Tell

Presented at our May 11, 2005 meeting.

Each image has a scale in the lower-left corner, with the tics spaced 1 mm apart. Because the brightness and contrast were manipulated on a computer, the coloring of a coin's image differs from the coin's actual coloring.

1. Last month, **Don Dool** showed medals honoring monuments to San Martín. Medals of San Martín are known in many categories, such as centenaries, bicentenares, battles, Mason medals, and commercial medals (usually from the 1910 centennial of the revolution). Some of the commercial pieces Don showed were:
    - A horizontal oval with male and female lions on one side.
    - Possibly a watch fob from a *camiseria* (shirt factory).
    - A medal from the Corona Watch Company.
    - A watch fob commemmorating 50 years of a beverage.
    - A medal from a Bianchi (Italian) car dealership in Rosario. A web search turned up one Bianchi for sale in Belgium, but the picture shows a car needing some work.
2. **Robert Leonard** is interested in counterfeit coins, and he keeps a file of stories about them. A PCGS press release announcing that they had slabbed counterfeit US silver dollars reminded him of a reference to articles in the *New York Times*; a search of their web site yielded some articles from 1897 and 1898. Bob wrote an article and submitted it to *Coin World*, and he showed it on page 8 of the current issue. The whole story is not yet out, and a followup discussion touched on such topics as how PCGS identified the counterfeits from repeated depressions near the mint mark, to how it was profitable to make counterfeit coins with the correct silver content.
   Bob also showed two books obtained while attended the annual Medieval Congress in Kalamazoo, Michigan: *Coinage in Syria Under Persian Rule 610-630* is in French with an English summary; while *Medieval Monney Matters, Coinage in England* recounts how England went from a non-monetary economy to a monetary economy.
3. **Mark Wieclaw** showed a carved snuff bottle before showing some coins.
    - Carved from a piece of agate (circa 1840-1870), the Chinese snuff bottle design elements include coins (for prosperity) and bats (for good lick). The design elements are in the areas of variously colored imperfections or foreign material in the agate.
    - A 1783 Nova Constellatio Cent, with pointed rays and a large US.

A Fugio Cent, note the words STATES and UNITED are incuse.

A tetradrachm from Akanthus from 480-424 BC. It features a lion attacking a bull, with a fish below. It is from unpublished dies similar to Deseneux 102.

Two adult tokens with "Heads I Win" and "Tails You Lose" legends. They were bought on eBay (someone phoned Mark after seeing them), and have their original cardboard boxes from Comic Coins, 6652 N. Western, Chicago. They are part of a series of ten.

4. At a recent show, **Dick Hamilton** acquired a $1000 bond from the Beech Creek Railroad of New Jersey. Printed by the American Bank Note Company, it was issued May 27, 1892, has hand signatures, and is number 185. It is a 4% first mortgage bond, guaranteed by the Nw York Central and Hudson River Railroad which later bought it.
5. **Robert Weinstein** showed lesser-known items:
   - A Greek looking bronze coin issued by the Celts in Tylis during

the early 4th century BC.

- A square bronze Indo-Greek coin of King Strato. Greek god Apollo holds a bow and arrow on the side with a Greek legend, while the other side has a Sanskrit-derived legend around a tripod. Circa 130 BC, from the area now known as the northern Punjab.
- A follis of Empress Faustas, the second wive of Constantine (the Great). She was boiled to death after Constantine found that she had lied to have Constantine's son by his first wife put to death.
- A centenioalis of Constantine II from the Antioch mint. The reverse type is a soldier spearing a fallen Persian horseman.
- A piece of fake Chicago exonumia, appears to be a Chicago Christmas wooden nickel of the Beatles and Vee Jay Records of Chicago. (Vee Jay was a small label which released some early Beatles albums when the major labels passed on them.) But the company had moved to Los Angeles by 1964. These showed up on the market some years ago.

6. **Robert Feiler** had five of his Mexican coins attributed by Clyde Hubbard, the speaker at or CICF meeting. They were:
    - A 4 reales of the late series found on Padre Island, from the 1553 fleet.
    - A 1 real of the late series, with initial of assayer L.
    - A 1731 8 reales (cob), from the fleet of 1733.
    - A 8 reales circa 1640, with initial of assayer P, and from the 1641 Concepcion wreck.
    - A 1770 2 reales of Charles III featuring the pillar design.

Birthday and Year Joined

July 4	Chester Poderski	
July 12	Flemming Lyngbeck Hansen	2000
July 13	Gerard Anaszewicz	1981
July 19	Terry L. Capps	1996
July 19	John R. Connolly	1997
July 19	Richard S. Hamilton	1986
July 20	Kermit W. Wasmer	1997
July 27	David Simpson	1980

Encyclopedia of Chicago Goes on the Web

Last year many CCC members purchased the 1,100+ page *Encyclopedia of Chicago*. The volume can certainly assist when doing research on local numismatic issues. Now the electronic version is up and working on the web. Go to http://www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org/ and find many additional features not in the book. According to the *Chicago Sun-Times*, the online version has several hundred more entries, more than 1,000 additional images, video of historic figures and events, primary source material, personal letters, newspaper articles, artwork, legal documents, hyperlinks to books, interactive maps and more. If all this material were in the book, it would run more than 10,000 pages!

And here's the best part - it's free!

Carl Wolf

Important Dates

Our June meeting will consist of two sessions: we will end the first session with a recess (instead of an adjournment), and we will reconvene for the second session at the Chicago International Coin Fair.

June	**8**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*
June	**24-26**	MidAmerica Coin Expo at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. Admission is $5.
June	**25**	CCC Meeting - 1pm at the MidAmerica Coin Expo, which is held at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 North River Road, Rosemont, IL. No admission charge for our meeting. Featured Speaker - David Sundman on *19th Century 3-D Slides of the U.S. Mint*
July	**13**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Sharon Blocker on *Collecting Polymer Banknotes*
August	**10**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*

Chatter Matter

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

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Club Officers

Robert Feiler - President

Jeff Rosinia - First Vice President

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July, 2005

Chatter

Chicago Coin Club

Volume 51 No. 7 **July 2005**

Minutes of the 1038th Meeting

The 1038th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 7 PM by President Robert Feiler with 13 members and 1 guest present. The guest was John Adams a free-lance photojournalist representing Leo Burnett Company and Chicago Creative Club who are compiling a directory of Chicago clubs.

The May Minutes were approved as published in the *Chatter*. Steve Zitowsky, Treasurer, reported May revenue of $121.57, expenses of $167.90, leaving a total asset balance of $7,651.53. Zitowsky reported receiving a letter with Kermit Wasmer's resignation.

The featured speaker for the evening was Robert Weinstein on the subject of "Small Change: Epidemic Counterfeiting in 4th Century Roman Britain." With the help of the document reader, Weinstein was able to show various genuine coins and their counterfeits from the reigns of Constantine the Great (307-337 AD) and his successor Constantius II (337-361). He also brought four reference books for those who wished to learn more about the subject.

Exhibitors for the evening were: JOHN RILEY – various international type coin albums made by Whitman during the 1960s and 2 dies used to strike military tokens; WINSTON ZACK – a 1763 Hungarian bronze coin showing Maria Theresa (obv.) and Madonna with child (rev.), and a copy of Harzfeld's 15th Sale of Coins & Medals auction catalog issued in 1880 by Bangs & Co. of NY; MARK WIECLAW – a denarius of Pescennius Niger (193-199 AD), a double-struck Kennedy half-dollar, a Mexican 50-peso-sized gold commemorative, and head-and-tails tokens; ROBERT WEINSTEIN - 4 Indo-Parthian coins included a silver drachm of Gondophares the Great, Gondophares-Sases, Sanabares and a bronze tetradrachm of Gondophares-Sases; ROBERT FEILER - 1892-3 Columbian Exposition box medal, a 1981 British *dead man's Penny* with a diameter 4.75" medal struck for those who lost a family member when the Lusitania sank, 1878 patented specie pocket case, and a French Napoleon Pewter box medal; and DON DOOL – 3 different handbill/store cards from S. American countries, an 1839 leper colony token from Venezuela, a 1978 medal commemorating the bicentennial of San Martín's birth and a reproduction of a rare San Martín medal.

Under business Mark Wieclaw reported the availability of Reza's Restaurant, 432 W. Ontario for the Club's December banquet. William Burd announced the purchase of a video projector that works with MS PowerPoint presentations and offered to bring it to Club meetings if the projector from BankOne is unavailable. Carl Wolf distributed auction catalogs to everyone in attendance of the Herb & Martha Schingoethe Obsolete Currency Collection Part 3 (June 17-18 Memphis, TN) compliments of R.M. Smythe. William Burd received a round of applause after the announcement that he was appointed to the Board of the Illinois Numismatic Association. It was announced that Don Dool would be the speaker at the July meeting on the subject of *German States' Coins from the Kipper Era (1617-1623)*.

The meeting was recessed at 8:35 PM and will be called to order 1 PM, June 25th at the MidAmerica Coin Expo in Rosemont.

Session II of the 1039th meeting was called to order at 1 PM by President Robert Feiler with 11 members and 8 guest present. In addition to the featured speaker, David Sundman, guests included: David Marshall, Richard & Rita Hall, Sherri Zack, Charles Wilkinson, Rita Jene Sledz and Todd Haefer from Krause Publications.

David Sundman's presentation was titled *19th Century Stereo Photographs of the U.S. Mint* and was received well by the membership. Everyone was provided with special glasses to view the 3-D stereo photo images.

After answering a series of questions, David was presented with an Educational Certificate from the American Numismatic Association and an engraved Club medal. The meeting was adjourned at 2 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Carl Wolf
Secretary

Birthday and Year Joined

August 11	Clifford Mishler	1995
August 19	Carl F. Wolf	1979
August 20	Melvyn Frear	1989
August 26	Tom DeLorey	1984
August 26	Donald H. Doswell	1960
August 29	James M. Rondinelli	1997

Speaker's Wor[l]d
Small Change: Epidemic Counterfeiting in 4th Century Roman Britain

Presented by Robert Weinstein to our June 8, 2005 meeting.

The counterfeiting of non-precious metal coinage sometimes indicated a shortage of non-precious circulating coinage. The common person's interests were on a small scale, while governments were interested in the big things, interested in silver and gold.

An early numismatic theory held that these counterfeits were produced after Rome left Britain; today, Phillip V. Hill's report is great for the illustrations but not good for its ideas. A better reference is #65 in the ANS' *Numismatic Notes and Monographs* series, by C.H.V. Sutherland in 1935.

There were epidemics of counterfeiting throughout the Roman Empire. Britain, on the empire's edge, experienced a number of epidemics; the first, coming soon after the conquest, was an initation of Claudius' bronze.

Bob first showed a coin of Constantine honoring the military, with two soldiers standing by two standards on the reverse. The coin weighs 3 grams and is 18 mm in diameter. The next coin was a 12 mm imitation weighing only 1 gram; the die was much larger than the blank, so much of the design is off of the blank. Although similar counterfeits are common, this piece is nicer than most and was acquired from the detectorist who had found it.

Counterfeit of a 2 Solidus Type, 12 mm diameter.

More examples of original coins and their counterfeits followed. Although the

empire saw a huge commemorative coinage honoring the founding of Constantinople, not much of it originated in Britain. But the counterfeits of that coinage are found in Britain. Another city commemortaive now found as counterfeit is the *Urbs Roma* type with a personification of Rome. Counterfeits come in many sizes, even down to only 2 mm in diameter. Of course, attributing pieces with so much of the design lying off-flan can be challenging.

The production method is believed to have been very simple: draw a rod of bronze, slice off blanks, and stamp them; the result often was a thick coin. Boone believed that these coins passed by weight, so uniformity was not important. Remember, too, that the word *follis* was both a unit of weight and a denomination. At one time, it was thought that the first counterfeits were large, and then were made smaller to increase the profit to the minter. But that is contrary to passing by weight.

There now is little doubt that these counterfeits circulated; they are found in hoards along with official coins. These counterfeits were produced in many places (not official mints). Bob concluded with an observation on the term *counterfeit*; it is used by experts to indicate all non-official strikes, even if fraud was not the intent.

Important Dates

July	**13**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Don Dool on *German States Coins from the Kipper Era (1617-1623)*
August	**10**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Sharon Blocker on *Collecting Polymer Banknotes*
September	**8-11**	Illinois Numismatic Association Fall Coin Show & Convention at the Park Place of Countryside Banquet Hall, 6200 Joliet Road, Countryside, IL. Friday & Saturday 10 AM - 6 PM; Sunday 10 AM - 3:30 PM. Take I55 to LaGrange Road, Exit 279 North, go 1.2 miles then turn left on Joliet Road, go about two blocks. The hall is the tall black building. Entrance is in the rear. Free parking for 700 cars.
September	**14**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*
October	**12**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - David MacDonald on *Overstruck Ancient Greek Coinage*

Speaker's Wor[l]d
19th Century 3-D Slides of the U.S. Mint

Presented by David Sundman to our June 25, 2005 meeting.

The program started with images of the Mint buildings in Charlotte, New Orleans, Denver, San Francisco and Carson City. That was folowed by historic scenes from the Yukon Gold Rush in Alaska, gold mines of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, hydraulic mining, and a fascinating photo of thirty huge bars of silver that made up a sidewalk for use by President Ulysses Grant when he visited the Colorado silver region.

A series of images dealt with the Philadelphia Mint, beginning with the National Numismatic Collection in the lobby, followed by photos of the various areas used to turn metal into coins. We saw the smelting room, assay equipment, rolling gold bars into ribbons, inspecting gold blanks, weighing gold blanks, the first steam coinage press, coinage presses, and gold pieces. And there was a quarter of a million dollars in gold coins on a table.

Another series of images, following a view of the Treasury Building, included the cash room, vault, and bags and bags of silver dollars. Among the buildings in New York were the Sub Treasury holding the nation's gold, as well as the headquarters of the National Bank Note Company and the American Bank Note Company.

At the beginning of the Civil War, the basement of the Treasury in Washington was used to print paper money. We saw theprinting operation with spider presses, hydrostatic presses printing fractional currency, bronzing room for adding borders to fractional notes, counting room in the attic, and trimming the notes immediately outside Samuel Chase's office. The Burreau of Engraving's own building oopenned in 1880, and we saw engravers at work, press operators and their assistants, wetting the paper, paper money in drying racks, numbering the notes, counting the sheets of notes, and the cutting operation.

Near the end David showed images of the First National Bank of Philadelphia, Charter No. 1, a bank vault in Chicago Fire rubble with an employee trying to cool it down by pouring water on it a week later, a bank vault in the debris of San Francisco's earthquake and fire, the destruction room at the Treasury, the committee overseeing the destruction, and various photos of the Chicago's Columbian Exposition including the Treasury Building with a section dedicated to silver mining interests.

Many companies produced stereogrphic photos during its heyday from the 1850s until 1910; collecting stereographic photos is a small but active hobby. The trick is to find numismatic material, but then David cautioned us that the captions on numismatic stereoviews are accurate only half the time. David concluded with thanks to Ron Labbe for the projection setup he used, and recommended that anyone interested in further details google that name. Someone in the audience suggested searching for stereoviews with the keyword *anaglyph* as that will avoid hits on all the other on-line uses of "3-D."

Our 1039th Meeting

Date:	July 13, 2005
Time:	7:00 PM
Location:	Downtown Chicago At Dearborn Center, 131 S. Dearborn, 6th Floor, Conference Room 6A (right off the elevator lobby). *Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: give a club officer the names of all your guests prior to the meeting day; and* ***everyone*** *must show their photo-ID and register at the guard's desk.*
Featured speaker:	Don Dool - *German States Coins from the Kipper Era (1617-1623)* This program deals with the German coinage issued during the 30-Years War (1618-1648). Soldiers needed to be paid and large quantities of coins were issued at overvalued prices that was further complicated by mass forgeries. Then in 1619 rulers of larger states joined in the fraud with resultant inflation. In order to establish a coin's worth it was laid on a specially made scale (Wippe) by a "tipper." If the coin was of full value, the Wippe tipped (German: kippen). Kipper money was outlawed in 1622 after Austria and later the Holy Roman Empire of German Nations rose up against it.

Show and Tell

Presented at our June 8, 2005 meeting.

Each image has a scale in the lower-left corner, with the tics spaced 1 mm apart. Because the brightness and contrast were manipulated on a computer, the coloring of a coin's image differs from the coin's actual coloring.

1. **John Riley** started the program by continuing on a previous topic, Whitman bookshelf coin albums for type collections from various countries. A Great Britain type set album from Queen Victoria's reign, 1837-1901, and John is looking for Maundy pieces to complete it. John also collects military base tokens, and he showed the pre-WW II steel dies for units of the 3rd Infantry Division: Battery A, 9th Field Artillery; and Co. K, 4th Infantry. He concluded by passing around some wax planchets he had struck with the dies, and that led to some members' thoughts on unidentified modern restrikes.
2. **Winston Zack** showed two pieces acquired on eBay:
   - An indistinct copper piece for $4, supposedly a Colonial coin. A close examination shows it to be a 1763 hungarian coin with a *Madonna and child* reverse.
   - An 1880 Bangs and Company auction catalog, but only after receiving the item did he notice the listing's fine print stating "copy."
3. **Mark Wieclaw** showed three more of the the adult token series he showed at the previous meeting, then he moved onto his serious exhibits:
   - At first glance it is a Mexican 50 peso gold piece, but it is a same-sized medal commemorating the first centennial of the 1857 Constitution.
   - A double struck 1972-D Kennedy half dollar; no longer round because of a small protruding hemisphere with just the 9 of the date resulting from the second, far off-centered, strike.
   - A denarius from Antioch of Pescennius Niger, who was illed 86 days after becoming emperor; the flan is small, but the bust is good. On the reverse, Spes has a polos on her head, is holding a flower, and is raising her skirt.

4. **Robert Weinstein** showed Indo-Parthian coins (parts of modern-day Afghanistan and Pakistan).
    - A silver drachm of Gondophares; in this area, only Sakastan made silver coins. On the reverse, the king's flowery titles are in Greek and cycles inard: left to right across the top, down the right side, upside down across the bottom, up the left side, then left to right under the legend start, and so on inward.
    - A silver drachm of Sases, about 20-30 are known to exist.
    - A silver drachm of Sanabares, it is the most ommonly found ilver piece from this era. The obverse legend now is in Pahlavi while the reverse legend is in good Greek.
    - A rare type of bronze Indo-Parthian coin with about 10-20 known. It is one of the first coins showing that later kings were including the name of Gondophares in their name. All of the above kings are known only from their coins.
5. **Robert Feiler** showed a wide range of items:
    - A Napoleonic medal with a damaged rim.
    - A box medal he had shown a few years ago, but it was repaired earlier that day in the Jewelers Mall Building.
    - An oval specie case, patented in 1878. Spring loaded, it has holes for nickels, dimes, quarters, and halves (it can hold 6 of each).
    - A so called *dead man's penny*; a large uniface medal bearing, in a tablet, the name of a fatality of the sinking of the *Lusitania*.
6. **Don Dool** showed items acquired while he was in Argentina:
    - A few of the handbills that are widely distributed in Argentina; one, for a fur and leather store, used the U.S. $100 bill for one side.
    - A 1939 12½ *bolivas* leper colony token from Venezuela.
    - A 10 *centisimos* paper note added to Don's 19th century scripophily collection.
    - A large San Martín medal for the bicentennial of his birth.
    - A restrike of a San Martín medal; the original is unique and is in a museum. This is one of 46 reproductions issued during 1913-1920, and his June *World Coin News* article, picturing this reproduction, is his first article to be illustrated in color; in a grayscale image, the medal would have been just a blob.

Chatter Matter

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

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CHICAGO, IL 60690

Visit Our Web Site

http://www.ChicagoCoinClub.org/

Contacting Your Editor

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Steve Zitowsky - Treasurer

Paul Hybert - Chatter Editor

William Burd - Archivist

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Chicago Coin Club

Volume 51 No. 8 **August 2005**

Editor's Notes

Every year, some club members submit trip reports about the ANA summer convention. Reports are accepted from all club members, so do not be shy. Submit something while it is all fresh in your memory

No need to list everything that happened there; a few paragraphs on your highlights of the convention is fine. Make us stay-at-homes want to attend the 2006 Denver convention!

Paul Hybert

Minutes of the 1039th Meeting

The 1039th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 7:05 PM by First Vice President Jeff Rosinia with 13 members and 1 guest, Alex Dool, present.

The June Minutes as published in the *Chatter* were approved. Steve Zitowsky's Treasurer's report was approved showing June revenue of $151.31, expenses of $149.30 and a balance of $7,651.53.

The evening's featured speaker was Don Dool on the subject *German States Coins from the Kipper Era (1617-1623).* Don showed 32 coins and discussed the standard references used to research these little known coins. The presentation was done on MS PowerPoint which received many compliments and questions. Information regarding Virtual Coin Cabinet is available at: http://www.dataxm.com/>. Following a series of questions, Don was presented with an ANA Educational Certificate and an engraved Club medal. A certificate and medal was also presented to Chuck Jacobs for his May presentation *Die Struck Copper Coins of China.*

Exhibits for the evening were: Steve Huber – 5¢ and 10¢ gem proof 1909 copper-nickel coins from China; Phil Carrigan – a selection of numismatic literature obtained from the J.J. Ford book sale no. 2; Don Dool – a 1690

half-crown of Irish gun money, a 1535 pfennig from Brandenburg Franken and a 1494 coin from Liege, Brule; Robert Leonard – a bottle of olive oil from Moscenice, Croatia and the story of how olive oil was used as money in Moscenice from 1400-1979; Andy Plioplys – a selection of silver bars *kapas* (Lithuanian: to chop) and *grivna* (Russian: bundle) from 1100-1300 Lithuania and a recently acquired large silver disk found in the Baltic region. The disk is like those found in the 1990s in Sweden where they are also called "bundles."

It was announced that the annual convention of the Illinois Numismatic Association will be held September 8-11 at the Park Place of Countryside Banquet Hall, 6200 Joliet Road, Countryside, IL. Exhibit forms were made available and anyone interested in giving a presentation was asked to contact Carl Wolf.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Carl Wolf
Secretary

Our 1040th Meeting

Date:	August 10, 2005
Time:	7:00 PM
Location:	Downtown Chicago At Dearborn Center, 131 S. Dearborn, 6th Floor, Conference Room 6A (right off the elevator lobby). *Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: give a club officer the names of all your guests prior to the meeting day; and* ***everyone*** *must show their photo-ID and register at the guard's desk.*
Featured speaker:	Andy Plioplys - *Temporary Currencies of Lithuania* A collector and student of Lithuanian numismatics for over forty years, Andy Plioplys will deliver a presentation on Lithuania's temporary currencies. Some of the highlights will be the currency introduced by the great Polish/Lithuanian hero Thaddeus Kosciuszko in the late 1700's, the currency of the Vilnius Ghetto in the 1920's, coupons by the Singer Sewing Machine Company, and a $7.00 coin issued by a university for use in their food service.

Speaker's Wor[l]d
German States Coins from the *Kipper* Era (1617-1623)

Presented by Don Dool to our July 13, 2005 meeting.

I wrote an article on the so-called *kipper und wipper* period of 1618 to 1623, at the start of the 30 Years War, for the December, 2001 issue of *World Coin News* and after looking it over in preparation for this talk I decided to quote it.

> Since this coinage was a direct result of the war, a brief history is in order.
>
> It was expected that the conflict between Catholics and Protestants would flare up in 1621 when the 12-year truce between Spain and the northern provinces of the Netherlands ended. Also expected was that Spain, rather than challenge Dutch naval strength, would send troops via Italy, through the Alpine passes and the up the Rhine River valley. The Habsburg emperor-to-be, Ferdinand II, had already promised Alsace to Spain as a consequence of the support of his Spanish cousins in his election to the throne.
>
> These actions had the danger of drawing the French into such a war, as they would not take lightly to being surrounded by Spain. Another danger lay to the north - would the Swedes and Danes allow the Habsburgs to extend their empire to the Baltic Sea at the expense of their fellow Lutherans?
>
> The conflict started in Bohemia in 1618, a year before Ferdinand ascended to the throne. Bohemia was mainly a Protestant state in the Catholic Habsburg empire, but with a growing Catholic minority. The Bohemian nobles were upset with the Habsburg regime and expected further encroachment on their powers when Ferdinand became emperor, so on May 23, 1648, they revolted. Civil war was on and eventually most of Europe would be drawn into the conflict.
>
> The war continued until it was ended in 1648 by the Treaty of Westphalia, although the French and Spanish fought on until the 1659 Treaty of the Pyrenees. It is believed Europe's population declined from about 21 million in 1618 to 13.5 million in 1648, over 35 percent - one of the most terrible wars in history.

> A debasement of much of the coinage of the German states had started about 1590; a practice of mixing copper with silver, i.e. billon. With the advent of the Thirty Years War, many of the local princes, including those who had no authority to strike coins, carried this to the extreme of virtually, if not completely, eliminating the silver content. This practice came to a head in 1621-1622, thus coinage, especially copper, for many locations is found only for these years. The term *kipper und wipper* used for this coinage is a reference to a dishonest method of weighing by the swaying of a balance scale.

At the time I wrote this I was of the opinion that the term referred to a practice used by butchers in the weighing of their products, however a quick look on the Internet led me to a German site that had a woodcut depicting the weighing process and the following information.

> Large numbers of soldiers had to be paid, and in order to do so in the early years princes overvalued and overissued lesser valued coins for profit. Local debasement was complicated by forgeries produced at the Swedish-held towns of Ebling and Riga on the Baltic.
>
> In order to establish their worth, coins had to be weighed. These were laid on a specially made scale (a *Wippe* or "see-saw") by a "tipper": If the coin was of full value then the *Wippe* tipped (German: *kippen*).
>
> The populace tried to hold on to their silver money, but as the rulers of larger states joined in the fraud in 1619, inflation increased from year to year. Starvation and crisis resulted and the church finally spoke up against the Kipper and Wipper.
>
> Blame for the forgeries went to the coin makers, but the guilty ones were the princes, moneyers and bishops. After Austria and later the Holy Roman Empire of German Nations rose up against the Kipper money, it was outlawed in 1622. In 1623 the use of the old coinage returned.

The following German States coins were then viewed as projected from the speaker's laptop and discussed:

Anhalt	1621	Pfennig
Augsburg (Bistum)	1622	Kreuzer
Bavaria	1624	Schwarzpfennig
Beeskow	1621	Pfennig

Breslau (Stadt)	1622	Pfennig
Camenz	1622	3 Pfennig
Cottbus	(1622) n.d.	Pfennig
Eichstätt (Bistum)	1621	Pfennig
Einbeck (Stadt)	1621	Flitter
Erfurt	1621	12 Scherf
Frankfurt am der Oder	1622	Pfennig
Fugger (Maximilian)	1622	Kreuzer (1/60 gulden)
Fugger-Babenhausen-Wellenburg	1622	Kreuzer
Fugger-Nordendorf	1622	Kreuzer
Gottingen	1621	3 pfenning
Halle an der Saale	1621	Pfennig
Hameln	1621	III Flitter
Kempten	1622	1 Kreuzer
Magdeburg (Stadt)	1621	Pfennig
Mansfeld-Bornstedt (Grafschaft)	1621	Drier (3 pfennig)
Mansfeld-Vorderortisch	1622	3 Pfennig
Neuruppin	1622	Pfennig
Nürnberg	1622	Kreuzer
Osterode (Stadt)	1621	3 Flitter
Paderborn (Domkapital)	1618	3 Pfennig
Pfalz, Kurlinie (Chur Pfalz)	1622	Kreuzer
Quedlinburg (Abtei)	1621	3 Pfennig
Ravensburg (Stadt)	1621	VI Pfennig
Rietberg (Stadt)	1617	Pfennig
Schweinfurt (Stadt)	1622	Kortling (1/84 Gulden)
Teutonic Order (Deutscher Orden)	1622	Kreuzer
Warburg (Stadt)	1622	4 Pfennig

Works Cited

- Dool, Donald H., Coppers hail from *kipper und wipper* period. *World Coin News*, Dec. 2001: 34-38.
- Tipper and See-Saw Time. http://www.moneymuseum.com/standard_english/raeume/geld_machen/t

Important Dates

August	**10**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - Andy Plioplys on *Temporary Currencies of Lithuania*
September	**8-11**	Illinois Numismatic Association Fall Coin Show & Convention at the Park Place of Countryside Banquet Hall, 6200 Joliet Road, Countryside, IL. Friday & Saturday 10 AM - 6 PM; Sunday 10 AM - 3:30 PM. Take I55 to LaGrange Road, Exit 279 North, go 1.2 miles then turn left on Joliet Road, go about two blocks. The hall is the tall black building. Entrance is in the rear. Free parking for 700 cars.
September	**14**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*
October	**12**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - David MacDonald on *Overstruck Ancient Greek Coinage*

Birthday and Year Joined

September	1	Fred K. White	1991
September	2	John Wilson	1984
September	7	James M. McMenamin	1975
September	18	Michael M. Dolnick	1952
September	18	Gregory Gajda	1999
September	19	Russell F. Wajda	2000
September	21	Kerry K. Wetterstrom	1999
September	24	Michael A. Pesha	1979
September	25	Saul Needleman	1992
September	26	Dennis P. Ciechna	1999
September	27	Edward Stevens	1996
September	29	Gordon R. Donnell	1999

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Chicago Coin Club

Volume 51 No. 9 **September 2005**

Editor's Notes

Here is a reminder that the members' auction will be held during our November 10 meeting. The next issue will give many details, but now is the time to think about making consignments. Due to the varied interests of the members, and realizing that at least two bidders are needed to make an auction, some items do better than others. In the past, items generating the most interest were either related to our club or the Chicago area. Again this year, Bill Burd of Chicago Coin Company has agreed to receive items from members unable to attend the meeting. Please send me a list of items as soon as possible; those lists received by mid-October will be included in the November *Chatter* which will be mailed at least one week before the auction.

Paul Hybert, editor

Minutes of the 1040th Meeting

The 1040th meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Robert Feiler with 14 members present. The July Minutes as published in the *Chatter* were approved. Treasurer Steven Zitowsky reported zero dollars in receipts and disbursements during July.

Under correspondence, the Secretary read an e-mail from Donn Pearlman resigning from the Club due to his move to Las Vegas. Considering his donation of numismatic books before leaving Chicago, a motion was made and passed that his membership be considered paid through 2005. The Secretary reported material donated by the Marcella Sheldon estate was sold at a George Frederick Kolbe sale for $740.00 minus commission. A check of $592.00 was presented to the Club. There were three lots that didn't sell. The upcoming Illinois Numismatic Association convention was announced, September 9-11, Park Place Banquet Hall, 6200 Joliet Road, Countryside, IL. There will be a Boy Scout Merit Badge Clinic during the morning. The afternoon will have three speakers. Club members John Wright will speak at 2 PM *238AD – The Year of the Seven Caesars*, and John Riley speaks at 4 PM

World War II Remembered Through Coins & Paper Money.

During a discussion about the recently held American Numismatic Association in San Francisco, members felt it was a strong buyer's show because of the low attendance and possible lack of European buyers. Robert Leonard reported selling $48.00 in club souvenir cards issued for the Chicago International Coin Fair. Steve Huber reported Andy Lustig from R.M. Smyth is prepared to deliver a presentation before the Club at an upcoming coin show.

The evening's featured speaker was Andy Plioplys on *Temporary Currencies of Lithuania*. He showed many pieces issued under the various years of independence, plus the years Lithuania was under German, Polish and Russian occupation. Some of the more interesting pieces included currency (coupons) issued by the Singer Sewing Machine Company in late 1920s, separate notes issued during World War II by Germany for buying potatoes or sugar, a coupon issued by the University of Vilnius used to pay cab drivers who in turn used it to buy gasoline, and a coin struck by the Laser Physics Department of the University of Vilnius used by staff for a free lunch in the school cafeteria. Other unique pieces included a series of currency issued by a Lithuanian city good for only one day (December 2, 1989) as a local political protest against Russian occupation, currency issued in 1990 by Lithuanian companies to pay employees so they could buy goods in the company store because the country was experiencing shortages resulting from Russian economic blockade, the temporary currencies issued by the independent Lithuanian government during the years 1991-93, and the currency issued by a city with the Bank of Lithuania but good for only one week in 1991 to raise funds for Lithuanian Olympic activity.

Exhibitors were Mark Wieclaw: old Gray Sheets from 1980 showing gold prices increasing $108.00/ounce in one week and decreasing $190.00/ounce the next week, a silver denarius of Roman Emperor Otho from 69 AD, a billon tetradrachm struck 238 AD of Gordian I Africanus who ruled only 21 days, a slabbed 1921 Peace dollar and a 2005 $50 U.S. gold eagle; Don Dool: City of Kaufbeuren, Stadt, 1622, Kreuzer, from the City of Strasborg an 1814 *un decime* of Napoleon and an 1815 un decime of Louis XVIII, plus the book *History of Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Aires, 1822-1997*; Robert Feiler: Greek stater 390-380 BC showing Pegasus on obverse, Roman Republic denarius struck 86 BC with laureate head of Apollo, an obsolete bank note dated July 11, 1840 from the Bank of Cairo, Illinois; Andy Plioplys: first Lithuanian stock certificates, post U.S.S.R.; Steve Huber: 9 crowns: from 1590 & 1621 Transylvania, 1698 Nurenberg, 1813 Fribourg, 1911 & 1914 China, 1936 (2) Philippine Islands, and 1914 Mexican Revolution; Robert Leonard: Memorabilia from the ANA San Francisco convention, 2 cut halves from 1913 Chinese 200 Cash coins making them worth 100 Cash, a book *Cobs, Pieces of Eight and Treasure Coins*, by Sewall Menzel; Chuck Jacobs:

7 different coins from the Culion leper colony in the Philippines dated from 1913-1930, book *Coins, Medals and Tokens of the Philippines, 1728-1974* by Aldo P. Basso.

Chuck Jacobs announced he has accepted new job in Ohio and regrettably won't be traveling to Chicago on a weekly basis. Everyone wished him well and gave him a round of applause. Don Dool reported member Mike Metras is back in the area and finalizing his affairs before moving permanently to Germany. A motion was made and passed to reserve a room for the December 14th Annual Banquet to be held at Marcello's Restaurant, 645 W. North Avenue, Chicago, IL 60610. Details will be reported at the September meeting. Some members are planning to frame the Club medals received for exhibiting and speaking, and a motion was made and passed authorizing the Secretary to sell them a Club speaker's medal after canceling the side normally engraved. This would allow them to show the medal's die struck side in the shadow box.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Carl Wolf
Secretary

Our 1041st Meeting

Date:	September 14, 2005
Time:	7:00 PM
Location:	Downtown Chicago At Dearborn Center, 131 S. Dearborn, 6th Floor, Conference Room 6A (right off the elevator lobby). *Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: give a club officer the names of all your guests prior to the meeting day; and* ***everyone*** *must show their photo-ID and register at the guard's desk.*
Featured speaker:	*- to be announced*

Speaker's Wor[l]d
Temporary Currencies of Lithuania

Presented by Andy Plioplys to our August 10, 2005 meeting.

Andy started his presentation with the warning that his definition of *temporary banknotes* is very broad and that it might not match some others' idea of the material. Much of Lithuania's history of recent centuries has been under political duress, and the pieces Andy showed us demonstrate peoples' ability to meet necessity with inventiveness and adaptibility.

At one time in the Middle Ages, Poland and Lithuania formed one empire (some viewed Lithuania as a province of Poland), but it was under Russian and Prussian control by the late 18th century. A 1794 revolt, led by Thaddeus Kosciuszko among others, led to a joint Polish Lithuanian currency. Andy showed 4 and 25 zloty pieces, and mentioned that other denominations are known. Czarist Russia controlled Lithuania after the revolt failed.

Andy's next piece was an example of *small money*. It was used by beggars in the capital, Vilnius, during 1904 and 1905. Restaurants accepted it for payment; signed by the patron receiving food, the restaurant kept one part and submitted the other part to the government for re-imbursement. With such specialized pieces, sometimes the story of how they came to the collector's market are as interesting as their original story. In this case, much material was either given away or destroyed when an archive was torn down: old books, boxes of stuff, and other things we like to collect.

Next shown were 10 and 20 kopeck revenue stamps showing a cart with horses. Acquired in 1983 from Frank Pasek, these 1912 items were used in the Jewish ghetto to raise funds. Later, they were used in the ghetto as money.

The German occupation during the war years of 1914-1918 resulted in many types of pieces. Some local magistrates signed local pieces; German occupiers issued some pieces denominated in kopecks and rubles, with legends in German, Lithuanian, Latvian, and Polish; a specialist could spend much time with the many errors in the Polish part.

Lithuania declared independenc in February, 1918 and was recognized by Germany. Various mark-denominated notes were printed in Berlin, with one ost-mark equal to one German mark. One side features German legends, while the other side has Latvian, Lithuanian, and German. (Half-mark pieces are known, as are 1, 2, 5, 20, 50, 100, and 1000 mark pieces.) During that time, some cities issued local currencies.

Conditions became more unsettled following the end of WW I; Poland invaded in April, 1919. The central bank in Vilnius issued notes in 1, 5, 10, and 20 marks in January, 1920, but the printer and quantity are unknown. A few months later, Polish forces took Vilnius but did not issue notes. By 1923, Lithuanian forces had moved into Memel, bringing an end to a large issue of low denomination notes (beautiful examples of local currencies, but toward the end was just so much Notgeld). The establishment of the Bank of Lithuania was hurried along to separate Lithuania from the hyper-inflation in Germany; Lithuanian notes in local denominations of *centas* and *litas* appeared in August, 1922.

The Singer Sewing Machine Company produced small pieces in the late 1920s and into the 1930s; most printing in English except for the denomitaion in litas. At first, Andy did not know how they were used; as coupons? or as small change? It turns out that the sewing machines were sold on a time payment plan; pay some amount every week, and approipriate stamps are placed into a receipt book. The final clue was determining that the script writing commonly appearing on them was *week 24*, *week 33*, etc. These are most commonly found in strips of three 1 litas stamps, showing that the most common payment was 3 litas per week.

The German occupation of 1943-1945 resulted in notes of different series and expiration dates. They listed what could be bought with each, and how much. Denominated in 1, 5, and 10 *punkt* (German for point), these are currency sized. No other currency was issued, so are these currency or a ration coupon?

Andy is skeptical of the story about *1 kilometer* denominated Soviet pieces from 1979. Supposedly issued by the University of Vilnius to its employees when it was short of money; it was good for a distance in a taxi, and the university would give gasoline to the taxi drivers in exchange for the pieces.

Lithuania declared independence in 1990, and the following few years saw much economic disruption with many odd pieces. Some companies issued pieces good in the company store for their own products, and their employees would barter those items for what they wanted. Some local issues with nice pictures were issued as a prelude to the issuance of official currency in 1993. Andy even showed counterfeits of the pieces. And then there are the later local souvenir issues raising money for local improvements. Some such fantasy pieces are still be printed and offered on eBay. Very confusing and unofficial there at the end, much more than can be covered in this little article.

Andy concluded by showing a coin issued as a paycheck supplement in 1993 by the Laser Section of the Physics Department at the University of Vilnius; it was good in the cafeteria for a meal.

Show and Tell

Items shown at our August 10, 2005 meeting.

1. While cleaning the shop, **Mark Wieclaw** found some *Gray Sheet* issues from early 1980, when the prices of gold and silver were moving: gold quotes over three weeks were $708, 820, and then 632 per ounce, while silver quotes were $76.50, 44.00, and 32.95 per ounce. Compare that to gold's current quote of $436 with only a $3 weekly change, and silver's quote of $7 with only a 38¢ weekly change. Then to his real exhibits:
    - A Roman denarius from 69 AD of Otho, who is one of the scarcer Roman emperors on coins. The reverse shows Pax standing, holding a branch and caduceus.

    - A tetradrachm from Alexandria of Gordian I Africanus. The **LA** on the reverse identifies this coin as issued during his first year as emperor; but his 21-day reign while 81 years of age made him one of many emperors in that one turbulent year.
    - A U.S. gold 2005 Eagle graded MS69. There followed a discussion on the rarity (perceived or real) of encapsulated modern coins with high grades. Mention was made of someone who wanted a 1987 MS70 Eagle that he traded a number of 4-coin platinum and 3-coin pold proof sets for it. Later, that same person traded four platinum sets for one 1988 MS70 silver eagle.
    - Mark concluded by passing around an encapsulated 1921 Peace dollar with the grade covered, asking us to guess a grade. The uneven but heavy black tarnish took away any hint of eye appeal; it might also cover up surface marks.
2. **Don Dool** started by noting an eBay lot which mentioned, as part of the description, that "continued interest grows in early coppers due to Don Dool's articles in *Numismatic News*". Real exhibits included:
    - A 1622 copper kreuzer from the city of Kaufbeuren.

- An 1814 coin of Strassbourg with an **N** for Napoleon, and an 1815 coin with an **L** for Louis XIV. Coins dated in both years are known with each of those letters; they reflect the local changing fortunes of each side towards the end of the Napoleonic era.
- A two-volumme set in English of the history of the Bank of Buenos Aires in Argentina. Large and heavy, it is of good printing and binding.

3. **Bob Feiler** was his usual source of varied material:
   - A $5 obsolete note from the Cairo Bank, dated July 1, 1840.
   - A Greek stater featuring Pegasus on the obverse.
4. **Andy Plioplys** extended the theme from his talk with Lithuanian stock certificates from the early 1990s, during the first privatization effort. A March 1991 100 ruble certificate from a financial company, issued to a person. A 1991 1000 ruble stock certificate from a commercial bank, issued to the above company. And last, 14,600,000 rubles worth of stock from a third company. The common thread is that all three declared bankruptcy, and the person named on the first certificate committed suicide when investigators were closing in.
5. **Steve Huber** showed large silver coins acquired during the ANA in San Francisco.
   - Two nice pieces from Transylvania, dated 1590 and 1621. Now part of modern day northwest Romania, it also was part of the Holy Roman Empire for awhile, and then the Austrian Empire (1718-1918).
   - A 1698 city-view taler from the German city of Nurnberg.
   - An 1813 piece from the Swiss canton of Freiburg.
   - Two Chinese pieces dated 1911 and 1914. The numismatic heritage of China is very complicated, as even utilities issued coins. China makes the German States numismatics look simple!
   - Two 1936 pieces from the Philippines, but Steve noted the ugliness of their designs, especially when compared to the other coins he showed.
   - A 1914 Mexican peso from Durango during the revolutionary period.
6. **Bob Leonard** showed items acquired during the ANA in San Francisco.
   - The convention's numismatic passport, the program, and the exhibits guide.
   - A program from the ANS reception kicking off the Augustus B. Sage Society.
   - The book *Cobs, Pieces of Eight, and Treasure Coins*.
   - The two halves of a 1913 200 cash coin of China; although the base coin is listed in Krause-Mishler, the resulting 100 cash

coins are not listed.

7. **Chuck Jacobs** mentioned that 14 countries have issued coins just for leper colonies, and then he showed the following coins for the Culion Leper Colony in the Philippines. Aldo P. Basso's book *Coins, Medals, and Tokens of the Philippines 1728-1974* was shown and was cited as a good reference.
    - Uncirculated ½ centavo.
    - A 1 peso on a thick aluminum planchet.
    - A 1920 aluminum 1 peso of the second series.
    - A 1922 copper-nickel 1 peso.
    - A 1925 copper-nickel 1 peso.
    - A 1927 copper-nickel 5 centavos.
    - A 1930 copper-nickel 10 centavos.

Important Dates

September 8-11 Illinois Numismatic Association Fall Coin Show & Convention at the Park Place of Countryside Banquet Hall, 6200 Joliet Road, Countryside, IL. Friday & Saturday 10 AM - 6 PM; Sunday 10 AM - 3:30 PM. Take I55 to LaGrange Road, Exit 279 North, go 1.2 miles then turn left on Joliet Road, go about two blocks. The hall is the tall black building. Entrance is in the rear. Free parking for 700 cars.

September 14 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*

October 12 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - David MacDonald on *Overstruck Ancient Greek Coinage*

Birthday and Year Joined

October 13	Bernard L. Schwartz	1986
October 14	Joel J. Reznick	1981
October 14	Warren G. Schultz	
October 17	Margo Russell	

2005 ANA Anniversary Convention Reports

John Riley reports:
This year's ANA show and bourse did not strike me as being particularly large in contrast to past conventions - perhaps that had something to do with the 11th-hour location change from San Jose. What a beautiful venue San Francisco is, though! I didn't have time to take tours of the old S.F. mint or go to Alcatraz Island, but a lot of effort was obviously made by the host clubs to facilitate after-hours activities. The Chicago Coin Club was well represented there: Tom DeLorey and many the Berk's staff, Alex Basok, and even Bob Leonard was seen "working the floor!"

It is interesting to me to see how popular paper money has become and the emphasis placed on that field these days. Most, if not all, dealers had a selection.

A touching moment of silence was held on Friday morning for Art Kagin.

The intent of my trip, and by far the most rewarding, was the Philippine Collectors Forum (PCF) chaired by Ray Czahor from Columbia, Maryland, on Friday afternoon. Watch for Doug Andrews upcoming article in *World Coin News*. This has become a tight-knit group over the past few years that promotes what we consider to be an under-appreciated aspect of U.S. numismatics: coins, paper money & exonumia of the Philippine Islands under U.S. administration (1903-45). A speaker from the Old Manila Mint Museum came in for the meeting and a delightful dinner followed.

Try for Denver next year and definitely Milwaukee the year after!

Tom DeLorey reports:

Flying to San Francisco the day after Chicago hit 104 degrees, my first impression of the 2005 ANA was noticing that the limo starter at San Francisco International Airport was wearing a winter coat. It was a gorgeous 70 degrees.

The show was held at the Moscone Convention Center on the South edge of the downtown area. As ANA sites go it was slightly better than average, if only because it had two good food areas that served a decent latte. I stayed at a tiny hotel two blocks away, across the street from the "Granite Lady" Old San Francisco Mint. I never got the chance to take one of the tours of it, but former Mint Director Jay Johnson took my picture standing in front of it.

Many people were put off by the fact that the registration booths were on the

second level, along with the ANA booths, the exhibit area and the foreign mint booths. I heard from one person that the foreign mints were unhappy at being isolated from the main bourse area, and yet other people said that the second floor registration worked to their advantage.

Supposedly many locals heard about a coin show, came in, registered, looked at the exhibits and the foreign mint booths, and left without ever entering the bourse. This could explain why the high official attendance (the P.A. kept calling for volunteers to help out at the registration booth) was not reflected in the number of warm bodies on the bourse floor.

The exhibits were excellent, as always. Besides the now-mandatory 1913 Liberty Head nickel, there was the 1870-S $3 gold which I haven't seen in a long time, the 1870-S Half Dime (which has improved from an AU-58 to an MS-64 since the first time I saw it), and an 1870-S Seated Dollar.

Despite the lower number of people on the bourse floor, retail sales were better than average for an ANA convention. One Oriental gentleman started out with a $3 gold, which got him over the $1000 minimum needed to qualify for an exemption from the California sales tax law, and then added several other $50-$250 coins. Had he bought any of these by themselves from another dealer, he would have had to pay sales tax on the single sales.

The tax situation was maddening. I lost one $800 sale because I was going to charge sales tax, after discounting the coin from $900. The buyer expected me to pay the tax myself. Another buyer picked out a $600 coin, and when I suggested that he buy an official State of California one ounce gold piece for $10 over melt to put him over the $1000 exemption limit, he said he didn't want one, but went ahead and picked out another $400+ in single coins just to avoid the tax. You just did not know where you stood on any given transaction.

The restaurants were good. I took a cable car ride with my old friend David T. Alexander of Stack's so we could eat up at Fisherman's Wharf, and an exciting taxi ride back with a driver who thought we were reshooting *Bullitt*. I'd go back.

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Archive available at http://www.ChicagoCoinClub.org/

Chicago Coin Club

Volume 51 No. 10 **October 2005**

Minutes of the 1041st Meeting

The 1041st meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 7 PM by President Robert Feiler with 12 members and 1 guest present. The Minutes as published in the *Chatter* were approved. Robert Leonard added a correction to the separate "Show and Tell" section in the *Chatter* concerning the 1913 200-cash coin from China: it is listed in Krause Publications. Steve Zitowsky's Treasurer's Report as of August 31st showed $930.00 in revenue, $408.17 in expenses and $8,175.37 in assets.

First V.P. Jeff Rosinia introduced the featured speaker Jerry L. Nelson, Corporate Communications and Public Affairs with the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. He spoke for over an hour while answering questions. When finished, he presented every attendee with a bag of shredded currency. Jeff Rosinia presented Jerry with an engraved club medal.

Second V.P. Lyle Daly introduced the exhibitors for the evening. They were: DON DOOL – 1972 San Martin Medal from Guayaquil, Ecuador, a 1583 3-stuiver from Zierikzee, and a 1542 scherf from the city of Lübeck; ROBERT FEILER: Dead Man's Penny memorial plaque struck in 1918 in Britain as memorial to those who died in World War I; STEVE HUBER: 7 Austrian and German Thalers, 1621-1755; LYLE DALY: a Peruvian sol from 1893, but shown as 1393, a silver merchant token dated 1811 from Stamford, England, and a bronze medal believed to be a Woodsman of the World token; JEFF ROSINIA: a selection of U.S. currency with signatures of various U.S. Treasury and Federal Reserve officials; ROBERT LEONARD: four books on the Federal Reserve Bank.

Under old business Jeff Rosinia volunteered to provide the name of the printer used for the club's CPMX souvenir when the tri-fold brochure is ready. Robert Leonard spoke on behalf of Dr. Saul Needleman who was unable to attend inquiring the status of a club book. Carl Wolf reported that funds are not secured. Treasurer Steve Zitowsky reported receiving a letter of resignation from Don Srbeny who moved to Arizona. He announced the

following five members in default of 2005 dues: Lee Atkins, Sidney Bick, Harry W. Collier, Jr., Louis B. Jordan and Tom Ryan. A motion was made and passed to drop them from the rolls.

Carl Wolf reported final plans for the December banquet preparations at Marcello's Restaurant, 645 W. North Ave., Chicago. The cost will be $25.00 each with a cash bar. Earlier Steve Zitowsky announced that he was donating the $250.00 deposit which would cover the cost of hors d'oeuvres. A round of applause followed.

Under new business Don Dool showed an acrylic plaque to display the engraved Cabeen Award medals and Featured Speaker medals. He also showed a personalized membership medal from another club which started a discussion whether the club should issue such a medal. A quick survey of the attendees showed a majority would pay $5.00-$10.00 for such a medal. Robert Feiler announced the upcoming Midwest Civil War Collectors Show, September 17, Midwest Conference Center/Concord Plaza, 401 W. Lake Street, Northlake, IL. Lyle Daly spoke on the free use of the meeting room and brought up the possibility that it may end in 2006. Carl Wolf showed an article in the September 19th issue of *Coin World* reporting on the club's April meeting at the CICF.

Respectfully submitted, Carl Wolf
Secretary

Important Dates

October	**12**	CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - David MacDonald on *Overstruck Ancient Greek Coinage*
November	**9**	CCC Meeting - Club Auction - no featured speaker
December	**14**	CCC Meeting - Annual Banquet - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*

Call for Club Auction Lots
November 9, 2004

The club auction is scheduled for 7PM, at the start of the regular November club meeting. In the past few years, club related material (and Chicago area numismatic items) have had the best results. Some printed material also has shown good results. Please consider using the club auction to dispose of the numismatic items you no longer need.

You can place a reserve on each lot, and there is no commission charged to either the buyer or seller. Auction lot viewing will be held before the meeting starts, and again briefly before the auction starts.

The November *Chatter* will contain a list of all auction lots that are known to us by Tuesday, October 25. You can either e-mail your list to Paul Hybert by Tuesday, October 25 if you plan to bring your lots with you to the November meeting; or you can ship your items to Bill Burd by Tuesday, October 25.

Bill Burd
CCC-A Dept.
Chicago Coin Company
6455 W. Archer Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638
chicagocoin@worldnet.att.net

Paul Hybert
312-791-9001, evenings
prhybert@worldnet.att.net

If you have questions, Bill can be reached at 773-586-7666.

Speaker's Wor[l]d
What's New at the Federal Reserve Bank

A presentation by Jerry Nelson to our September 14, 2005 meeting.

Jerry Nelson started his presentation with an overview of how the Federal Reserve system is organized, and then used operational details from the last 20 years to show how the money business has changed.

The Federal Reserve system is a combined governmental and commercial venture operating as a not-for-profit; all profits go to the US Treasury. The country is divided into 12 districts, with a Federal Reserve Bank in each district. The **G** in the seal on the left side of dollar bills indicates a note issued through the Chicago Federal Reserve Bank; the newer style notes, $5 and higher, no longer show the issuing bank's identification in the seal.

Membership in the system is mandatory for all federally chartered banks while membership is otional for other financial institutions such as credit unions and state chartered banks. Currently, 1500 chartered banks must use 3% of their capital surplus to buy Federal Reserve Bank stock which pays 6% annual interest. The stock price does not fluctuate, and only financial institutions can own Federal Reserve stock; the stock is not traded on any public exchange.

Most of the talk was spent covering just two Federal Reserve functions: check clearing and money circulation. When you go to your bank and deposit a check drawn on another bank, the Fed is involved; it is the clearing house for checks. For a long time, the clearing process involved moving the physical piece of paper; even with automation, moving a check between distant banks could take days. In 1995, the Chicago Fed processed 95 million checks per night, but now it processes 3 million physical checks each night. What happened? Electronic procesing happened. In addition to electronic bank transfers (which first exceeded check transfers in 2004), transmitting a check's scanned image recently replaced transferring the physical check in many cases. It costs 79¢ to process a paper check, but only ½¢ to process an electronic check.

The rest of the program covered the Fed's part in circulating coins and paper money. Twenty years ago, the Chicago Fed still distributed coins from its downtown location: large containers of coins came from the Philadlphia mint, they were broken down into smaler lots on site, then taken away by armored truck companies. Currently, coins from the Philadelphia mint are shipped to about 20 armored truck companies in the Chicago district, completely bypassing the downtown Chicago location. The Chicago district uses more

coins than any other district.

The downtown Chicago facility still processes the paper money for its district, with $17 million arriving each day from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP). The $1 notes arrive in 50-foot trailers (no identifying marks - we asked!), with the larger notes arriving in armored trucks. 95% of the BEP's shipment typically replaces the wornout notes that the Fed destroys. The Fed burned old notes before 1991, but the Environmental Protection Agency complained about the released chemicals; although some shredded waste is used in novelty products, most of the shredded waste ends up in a hazardous waste dump. The lead was finally removed in 1996, but the cadmium, mercury, and other substances still remain.

Did you know that images of all notes to be shredded are kept for 45 days? Among the reported information generated each month is the number of destroyed notes, listed by denomination. For instance, 22 $1000 notes were destroyed in July, 2005. That led to some interesting stories from attendees about the Fed's long standing rule that banks must turn in (at face value) all deposited $500 and $1000 notes, and how some old-time banks had archives and vault "back corners" where they would show new employees the "good stuff." We tried to pin down Jerry as to details - such as, "Are the serial numbers checked for duplication, as an indication of counterfeiting?" - but he deftly dodged details. He did say that the expected life of the $1 note is 15 months and 4 years for the $20 note, but he again dodged the details of how those numbers are calculated. We did find out that the expected life of the $20 note has decreased recently, due to its heavy use in Automatic Teller Machines. Jerry also told us that a 16-grade scale is used to judge the quality of a note (a 16 is the best and a 1 is the worst), and that while an 11 used to be the point for shredding, 13 now is used because cash machines are more sensitive to faults in the notes.

At more than one hour, Jerry's presentation was one of the longest in recent memory, with much more information than is here summarized. The Chicago Fed (at LaSalle and Jackson Streets) has an exhibit area open to the public M-F, from 9AM until 4PM. Some of the displays can be seen from the windows along Jackson, just west of LaSalle, but there are heavy bars on the windows and the exhibits are too far away to be read. Jerry concluded by handing out small pouches of *Fed shreds*, about a handful of shredded currency. More information is at Chicagofed.org

Show and Tell

Items shown at our September 14, 2005 meeting.

1. **Don Dool** continued some of his previous exhibiting themes:
    - From Ecuador, a medal for the sesquicentennial of the meeting between San Martín and Simon Bolivar. The planchet quality is very poor, and Don ventured that maybe this piece had been diverted from the melting pot.
    - A double struck 1585 3 stuyver of Zeelandia (Zierikzee); this "poor penny" was given by churches, for the poor to buy food. (Neumann II 12837)
    - A copper 1542 1 scherf of Lubeck (Behrens 547). Don had sent this to a friend who performs x-ray analysis of metal objects; this showed mostly copper with some other metals, and one area did show signs of silver. So maybe this piece is really billon?
2. **Bob Feiler** brought back his *dead man's penny* exhibit from June, but with more information. The British government made one million of these, each bearing the engraved name of a fatality during WW I. Bob found much information about these and their story on the web.
3. **Steve Huber** showed Talers acquired during the ANA in San Francisco:
    - A 1621 taler from Hall in Austria. This is typical of the many early talers which are oriented to religion; here showing an officer of a religious order in regalia.
    - An early rendition of the wild man appears on a 1647 taler of Brunswick Wolfenburg.
    - A 1654 taler from Austria, with no religious connection.
    - A 1718 taler of Hall in Austria, showing Charles VI.
    - A 1723 taler from the Passau Bishopric.
    - A 1728 taler of Brunswick-Wolfenbuttel with a more artistic rendition of the wild man. This design was new to at least one person in attendance, so a short discussion ensued.
    - A 1755 commemorative taler of Eichstadt, but minted in Nurnberg.
4. **Lyle Daly** showed a range of items:
    - An 1893 Peruvian 1 *sol* with the date appearing as 1391; this variety is not scarce.
    - An 1811 one shilling six pence token from Stamford. The design includes a lion and a crown, and bears the names "Edward & Frances Dutt."
    - An American token issued by the Woodmen of the World. The legend *Dum Tacet Clamat* means, "Though silent, he speaks."

5. **Jeff Rosinia** showed US paper money with signatures of various Treasury officials, including Mary Ellen Withrow, Angela Buchanan, Francine Neff, and William Simon. As with most collecting interests, Jeff had no interest in signatures until he obtained his first signature, then he felt compelled to gather more. Some signatures are on notes not bearing that person's printed signature because Jeff did not have an appropriate note available when meeting that person.
6. **Bob Leonard** showed four books abut the Federal Reserve system:
    - *The Federal Reserve Act*, Hon. Robert L. Owen, New York: 1919.
    - *The Federal Reserve System, Its Purposes and Functions*, second ed. Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington: 1947.
    - *The Federal Reserve System, Purposes and Functions*, fifth ed. Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington: 1963.
    - *Historical Beginnings ... The Federal Reserve*. Roger T. Johnson, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Boston: 1995. Note: these last two, though with slightly different titles (the latter is also called 50th Anniversary Edition), are listed on the verso of the title page as two editions of the same book.

Birthday and Year Joined

November	2	Alexander Basok	1998
November	5	Phyllis Johnson	1987
November	8	Brian A. Heil	1981
November	24	Jeffrey F. Bernberg	1975
November	27	Robert Feiler	1994

Our 1042nd Meeting

Date: October 12, 2005

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Downtown Chicago
At Dearborn Center, 131 S. Dearborn, 6th Floor, Conference Room 6A (right off the elevator lobby). *Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: give a club officer the names of all your guests prior to the meeting day; and* ***everyone*** *must show their photo-ID and register at the guard's desk.*

Featured speaker: David MacDonald - *Overstruck Ancient Greek Coinage*

David MacDonald has collected and studied overstruck ancient Greek coinage for at least 15 years. These unique coins were struck from 360 B.C. – 1 A.D. and can be found in the coinage of Massalia (France) on the west to the Indo-Greek empires of the east. It's believed the coins were overstruck to increase their marketplace value and because it was cheaper than going through the entire process of melting the old coins. Little written material is available on this subject except for a few articles that appeared in obscure academic journals. MacDonald has published some 6-7 articles and has authored for publication a 220-page manuscript listing 156 overstruck coins.

Chatter Matter

All correspondence pertaining to Club matters should be addressed to the Secretary and mailed to:

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Jeff Rosinia - First Vice President
Lyle Daly - Second Vice President

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Carl Wolf
Steve Zitowsky
Mark Wieclaw

Other positions held are:
Bill Burd/Carl Wolf - Secretary
Steve Zitowsky - Treasurer
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Chicago Coin Club

Volume 51 No. 11 **November 2005**

Minutes of the 1042nd Meeting

The 1042nd meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Robert Feiler with 13 members and 1 guest, David MacDonald, present. The September minutes as published in The Chatter were approved. A motion was passed to accept Steve Zitowsky's report of September revenue of $40.00, expenses of $77.40 and a balance of $8,137.97.

First Vice-President Jeff Rosinia introduced the featured speaker for the evening, David MacDonald, who addressed the club on "Overstruck Ancient Greek Coinage." David was a Fulbright Fellow, received his Master's degree and Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota and recently retired as a history professor at Illinois State University in Normal, IL. His talk was accompanied by twenty-five specimens shown on a large projection screen. David explained many reasons why the coins were overstruck including: overstriking out of date coins to bring them in line with current coinage, clipping foreign coins of a non-standard weight and overstriking the resultant coin to bring it in line with current coinage, military capturing another country's coins then overstriking them to pay the soldiers and rulers overstriking the coinage of a preceding ruler in an attempt to erase their memory. The most common reason for overstriking coins was to raise funds through demonetizing the coins, then charging a fee to remonetizing them with an overstrike – essentially taxing coins in circulation. David showed an example of a coin that went through this process three times and received a new overstrike each time. Following the talk, Jeff presented David with an engraved club medal and an educational certificate from the American Numismatic Association.

Second Vice-President Lyle Daly introduced the exhibitors for the evening that included: Steve Huber: 1873 French five-franc piedfort of Henri V, 1827 French module of Charles X, and 1943 1-tael from French Indochina with a die crack; Mark Wieclaw: 2 seals from 2005 silver eagle bags (one with P and one with WP stamp), a cigarette lighter in the shape of a stack of Washington quarters, 1944 wartime nickel with lamination error, bronze overstrike on a coin of Hadrian, 132-135 AD, 10-drachm of Ptolemy III, and a denarius of

Caligula (37-41 AD); Robert Leonard: examples of the three most important gold coins circulating in the eastern Mediterranean during the 14th century from the Mamluks, the Byzantine Empire and Venice; Winston Zack: two U.S. mint sets in original envelopes with environmental damage, 1973 medal celebrating NATPE 10th anniversary in New Orleans, 1972 medal issued by the Sons of Liberty celebrating the Bicentennial; Donald Dool: 1562 scherf from Luneburg-Stadt, 1570 scherf from Lubeck-Stadt, 1591 scherf from Pommen-Stettin (Pomerania) and 1621 1-flitter from Brunswick-Stadt; and Robert Feiler: 1884 Morgan dollar with sticker "This Dollar Was Earned at Michigan Chemical Corporation, Saint Louis, Michigan," and 1618 Spanish 4-maravedis of Philip III (1598-1621).

Under old business it was announced that $25.00 guarantees your reservation for the December banquet where Leonard Augsburger will speak on "The Baltimore Gold Hoard." Lyle Daly volunteered to gather material for a silent auction at the banquet with proceeds going to the club treasury.

Everyone was asked to e-mail November auction material to Paul Hybert by October 25th and it was agreed to put material in the auction from Marcella Sheldon's estate that failed to sell in a Kolbe auction.

After a roundtable discussion concerning an updated tri-fold brochure promoting the club, Jeff Rosinia, Mark Wieclaw and Bill Burd volunteered to serve on a design committee. Several more members volunteered to lend computer support or submit electronic images from their collections.

Jeff Rosinia and Lyle Daly reported on their visit to the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and distributed a large selection of pamphlets and booklets. They also presented President Robert Feiler with a money tube filled with shredded currency at $1008 per inch.

Carl Wolf announced that John Krawczyk, a collector from Florida, was visiting Chicago. He had hoped to make the meeting, but business obligations kept him away. He sent an e-mail asking if anyone was available tomorrow evening.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Wolf, Secretary

Our 1043rd Meeting

Date: November 9, 2005

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Downtown Chicago
At Dearborn Center, 131 S. Dearborn, 6th Floor, Conference Room 6A (right off the elevator lobby). *Please remember the security measures at our meeting building: give a club officer the names of all your guests prior to the meeting day; and* ***everyone*** *must show their photo-ID and register at the guard's desk.*

Member Auction: Although the deadline for listing lots in the *Chatter* is past, you can still bring your lots with you to the November meeting. In the past few years, club related material (and Chicago area numismatic items) have realized the best results. Please consider using the club auction to dispose of the numismatic items you no longer need.

You can place a reserve on each lot, and there is no commission charged to either the buyer or seller. Auction lot viewing will be held before the meeting starts, and again briefly before the auction starts.

Please find elsewhere in this issue of the *Chatter* a listing of all auction lots that were known to us by Tuesday, October 25.

Birthday and Year Joined

December	6	Allen H. Meyer	1990
December	7	Brian C. Stubbs	1980
December	10	Mike Gasvoda	1995
December	16	Michael Schmidt	2000
December	19	William Noble	1980
December	26	Kevin J. Blocker	2000
December	29	Nick Weiss	1996
December	31	Phillip J. Carrigan	1989

Show and Tell

Items shown at our October 12, 2005 meeting.

1. **Steve Huber** showed two catalogs used in French numismatics; both written by authors with the same **VG** initials, their different numbering schemes use the VG prefix - can be confusing. Steve also showed pieces demonstrating three numismatic terms:
    - An 1873 5 franc *piedfort* of the pretender Henri III. A *piedfort* typically has the same design and diameter as a regular coin, but is struck on a planchet twice the thickness of the usual planchet.
    - An 1827 *module de 5 franc* honoring Charles X's visit to a mint; this is a medal in the size of a 5 franc coin.
    - An undated *tael* of French Indo-China, struck 1943-1944.
2. **Mark Wieclaw** started by bringing us current on his "fun" interest in the mint's lead seals from West Point: a July, 2005 shipment still used the **WP** marking, while a September, 2005 shipment used the **W** marking. Then on to his real exhibits:
    - A lighter made in the form of a stack of large Washington quarters.
    - At the shop, a bag of US war nickels (40% silver) contained some which were virtually uncirculated. Mark showed a 1944-P nickel with striations in the planchet.
    - A Bar Kochba bronze coin. These were struck over Roman coins, and this one shows the bust of the Emperor Hadrian.
    - A Ptolemaic decadrachm, very porous and in poor condition.
    - A denarius with Caligula on one side and his mother, Agripinna Senior, on the other. This is the cover coin of a Wayne Philips book.
3. **Bob Leonard** showed three gold coins of the priciple gold issuers of the eastern Mediterranean in the 14th century. He located the issuers on a map, explained how their status was changing, and showed how the look of the coins mirrored the issuer's status:
    - The good looking gold coin of the still expanding Mamluke Sultanate has inscriptions identifying the ruler on one side, and religious inscriptions on the other side.
    - The crude gold coin of the Byzantine Empire (circa 1325-1341) shows Christ blessing the 2 emperors; it is only 11.3 karat.
    - The gold ducat of Venice carries the name of the doge, and has correct legends.
4. **Winston Zack** brought in some items from his grandfather:
    - Some of many proof sets from the early 1960s; some coins show environmental damage, and the striking appearance of

some coins led to a discussion of mint errors and post-mint damage. Some of the orginal envelopes are still sealed, and that led to the observation that some dealers pay more for some sealed envelopes hoping to find a cameo coin.
    - A token from the 1973 10th anniversary convention of NATPE in New Orleans. Moon Landrieu is identified as mayor.
    - A 1972 Sons of Liberty medal with a bust of Washington reminded us that the US bicentennial celebration had an early start.
5. **Don Dool** showed a number of small copper coins known as scherfs and flitters. A flitter's worth depended upon the location: ½ pfennig, 1 pfennig, or 2 pfennigs; while a scherf was worth ½ pfennig everywhere.
    - A 1562 scherf from Luneburg-Stadt.
    - A 1570 scherf from Lubeck; one side features the arms of the city of Lubeck.
    - A 1591 scherf from Pomerania;a crowned griffin is on the obverse of this 0.5 gram coin.
    - A 1621 flitter from Brunswick, showing a lion; acquired from a collector in Cyprus.

    Don concluded by mentioning the *wildman* talers shown last month (they were new to some people); the wildman occurs in German mythology.
6. **Bob Feiler** showed some varied pieces:
    - An 1884 US silver dollar with a sticker on the reverse. It says, "This dollar was earned at Michigan Chemical Corporation Saint Louis, Michigan."
    - A 1618 4 marevedis from Spain's Segovia mint. The reverse is very worn, but the nice obverse shows Phillip III.

Important Dates

November 9 CCC Meeting - Club Auction - no featured speaker

December 14 CCC Meeting - Annual Banquet - Featured Speaker - Leonard Augsburger on *The Baltimore Gold Hoard of 1934*

January 11 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*

Annual Member Auction

Here are the lots known to us by October 25, 2005. The gaps in the lot numbering are intentional; they simplify our book keeping. The auction will be held near the start of the meeting, after a short time for lot examination; consignments are accepted until the auction starts.

Items donated to Club by Sheldon Estate:

1. ANA Medal designs, commemorative quarter design, etc. Includes drawings of proposed medals for the ANA; portrait drawings of Dr Heath, Jerrems and Hooper; drawing for a pine tree shilling commemorative; and more.
2. 22 Numismatic Christmas & New Year Greeting cards from Betty and Paul Vincze to the Sheldons. From 1959 to 1980. Each card depicts both sides of a medal designed by Vincze. Each year is different.
3. Frank J. Katen pamphlet *Let there be Light* prepared by Committee of Eighty (1950). 24 pages. This details the controversy between the ANA and Katen ending in his expulsion from ANA. Also single sheet supplement to the July 1950 issue of the *Numismatist* listing personal data on the candidates.

Material consigned by members.

101. Garfield mourning ribbon. Cloth ribbon, white field with black lettering, black border and black bow. Pin back. Inscribed "In Memoriam James A Garfield Sept 19th, 1881 we mourn our President"
102. Lincoln medal approx 1½ inches high and 1 inch wide, copper, Serial No 202 on reverse. Made by J. H. Ripstra former CCC member.
103. Two tickets to Republican National Convention in Chicago July of 1960.
104. Booklet *Panorama of the Battle of Gettysburg on Exhibition in Chicago* copyright 1884.
105. An imitation of a bronze Japan Knife Money from period of 680 - 250 BC.
106. Postcard depicting Wm Bryan for President and John Kern for VP. Heading on postcard is *Democratic Candidates*. Card postmarked Nov 2, 1908. Condition is poor with two corners missing and one torn and taped.
107. *Chicago Coin Club Bulletin* Volume 1 No. 3 October 1936. 4 pages. Very good condition.

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Volume 51 No. 12 **December 2005**

Minutes of the 1043rd Meeting

The 1043rd meeting of the Chicago Coin Club was called to order at 7 PM by President Robert Feiler at Chase Bank's Dearborn Center, 131 S. Dearborn, Conference Room 6A, Downtown Chicago with 14 members present. The October Minutes as published in the *Chatter* were approved. Treasurer Steve Zitowsky reported October revenue of $34.00 and disbursements of $96.76, leaving a balance of $8,075.21 in the treasury.

The program for the evening was an auction of 19 lots with Jeff Rosinia serving as auctioneer and the evening's jokemeister.

Under old business Steve Zitowsky reminded members to make reservations for the Annual Banquet to be held December 14th at Marcello's Restaurant, 645 W. North Avenue, Chicago. Reservations can be made by sending a check made payable to the CCC for $25.00 per person and mailing it to P.O. Box 2301, Chicago, IL 60690. Members can also send an e-mail to carlwolfco@msn.com. Mark Wieclaw and Glen DeCosta volunteered to donate funds for hors d'oeuvres. Steve also reminded members of 2006 dues should be paid in the amount of $20.00 per person.

Lyle Daly is organizing a silent auction for the Club's benefit at the banquet and he requested members to donate items, especially non-numismatic material, which spouses may find attractive. Members were encouraged to write or e-mail a list of the merchandise they'll be bringing so it can be printed in the *Chatter*.

Following Robert Leonard's proposal to issue a souvenir card for the CCC meeting at the 2006 Chicago International Coin Fair dealing with Mexican Chocolate Money, a motion to accept was made and passed. The card would include several cocoa beans. It was reported that a dealer of primitive money, Scott Seamans, Seattle, WA, is interested in creating a link to the Club's web site if the Club's available primitive money souvenir cards are listed.

A brief discussion was held concerning work on a tri-fold brochure promoting the Club. The possible creation of a membership medal was discussed and it was referred to the committee handling the brochure.

Lyle Daly, an employee of Chase bank, reported the meeting room may not be

available in the future and the Club may receive very little warning. His comments were supported by Jeff Rosinia, another Chase employee, and several members volunteered to make inquiries into other locations.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Wolf, Secretary

Speaker's Wor[l]d
Overstruck Ancient Greek Coinage

A presentation by David MacDonald to our October 12, 2005 meeting, (images not included).

My chief interest is overstruck Greek coins, that is coins that have been recoined by striking them with new and different dies, whether by the original minting authority or by a different minting authority. Such coins are generally not popular with most collectors. They tend to be ugly and for most people represent no more than curiosities, but for me they are endlessly fascinating. Overstrikes provide information about the flow of currency from one area to another, about ancient monetary policies and procedures, and about chronological evidence on the sequence of issues and even occasionally on the sequence of little known rulers.

What I want to do this evening is talk a bit about overstrikes in general and show you, if we have any luck with the technology, a few examples of what seem to me to be interesting overstrikes.

Overstriking was a regular feature at some mints during certain periods and occurred sporadically at many others. Gold overstrikes are almost unknown. There are many varieties of overstruck silver coins, but most are individually rare and all at least scarce. Some copper overstrikes are rare, but others are known from thousands of specimens. In all probability, many overstruck coins show no evidence of the process, which successfully obliterated all trace of the host coins. Unmistakable traces of overstriking are apparent on other coins, but too little of the host coins' designs survive to be identified. Host coins can be identified only on the least efficiently executed overstrikes.

The first problem, though, is why did ancients, or for that matter medieval and modern peoples overstrike coins? Overstriking, of course, did nothing to increase the number of coins available, but it did alter them, replacing the types and legends that indicated the original issuing authority with new types and legends. This was done for a variety of reasons. Each case must be examined individually, and in some instances, there is no apparent reason.

Coins struck at different mints often circulated together in the Greek world, but not all coins, even coins of good silver and full weight, were always acceptable at a good rate. Unfamiliar coins from distant mints or obsolete coins might be heavily discounted. Such coins might be completely recoined, reducing them to raw metal by melting, manufacturing new flans, and striking entirely new coins. Alternatives to complete recoining were overstriking and countermarking, both of which frequently occurred in the history of Greek coinage and frequently served similar purposes. The distinction between countermarking and overstriking may even be unclear in cases where hinged dies applied large countermarks or small overstriking types simultaneously to both sides of a host coin.

Mints tended to employ overstriking rather than complete recoining when too few coins were involved to warrant the expense and labor of melting and creating new flans or as an expedient when large numbers of coins had to be recoined quickly. Overstriking might be employed rather than countermarking to obliterate the original identity of host coins or at least if there was indifference to preserving it, while countermarking preserved that identity in some sense.

Coins were often overstruck to alter their area of circulation. Coins that enjoyed broad circulation might be recoined with local types in the effort to capture the coins for exclusively local circulation. Small Greek communities in the Adriatic overstruck the bronze coinage of Macedonia apparently for this reason. Similarly, the first coinage of the small Cretan city of Polyrhenion is generally overstruck on the common and broadly accepted hemidrachms of Argos and occasionally on Corinthian hemidrachms. The coins of Polyrhenion would have been less widely acceptable and more likely to have been retained to serve local needs. A rare mid-fifth century Athenian overstrike on a tetradrachm of Syracuse is an example of a coin that had moved far from its usual areas of circulation and was presumably overstruck to render it locally acceptable at full rate.

Coins could be recoined or overstruck when they became obsolete and less acceptable with the passage of time. The length of time a coin might remain in circulation varied greatly. A didrachm of Akragas was well over a century old when overstruck at Taras. Such overstriking took place in such diverse regions as Sicily, Thrace, and Egypt and involved both bronze and silver coins. On occasion, such overstriking was undertaken by unofficial mints, probably on occasion to avoid official recoining fees, but more often it seems to have taken place in regions remote from the official coining authority and represents simply local attempts to render obsolete currency acceptable.

Coins were also likely to be overstruck if they differed from the local weight standard. Coins sharing a common weight standard were obviously easier to overstrike, but there was less reason to overstrike them. Coins of heavier standard were often reduced to a lighter standard by trimming the flan before restriking. The precision of this process varied greatly with time and place. Ptolemy I's reduction and overstriking of earlier Attic weight coins, undertaken for government profit, was accomplished with great accuracy. In contrast, a stater of

Abdera overstruck by Teos was crudely and imprecisely adjusted by two chisel cuts. Many Corinthian-type staters restruck by the cities of southern Italy were also only roughly reduced in weight. Some coins were even overstruck to a higher weight standard than the original host coin. This was accomplished by folding the new metal and host coin together and then hammering until all adhered or by making a hole in the host coin and adding a plug of new metal. Overstriking to a higher weight standard was generally rare, although Samos employed it with some regularity for overstriking staters of Aegina. Staters of Samos on very irregular flans often prove on close examination to be such overstrikes.

It is frequently suggested that overstriking was employed as a political measure, to obliterate the emblems of an enemy. An example is coins of the Seleucid Demetrios I and Laodiceia overstruck on coins of the usurper Timarchos. Similarly, overstriking might be undertaken to promote civic pride. Rulers and cities certainly felt that coinage had some political meaning. The famous Sestos decree (OGIS 339) indicates that in addition to the profit motive, "the people had decided to use its own bronze coinage in order that the city's type might have currency." Nevertheless, care should be exercised in attributing overstiking entirely to political or patriotic motives. Coins are primarily fiscal instruments, and financial considerations for restriking should be considered before political or ideological reasons are assumed, though a change of regime often provided a good opportunity to undertake overstriking for economic advantage.

The overstriking of masses of foreign coins in a short period is often associated with military activity and the payment of troops. At the end of the fourth century, Cretan mints overstruck silver from Kyrene, surely the pay of mercenaries returned home. About the same time, several Greek mints in southern Italy extensively restruck Corinthian-style staters, money earned by grain sales to mainland Greece and overstruck locally to pay troops. In Sicily during the Second Punic War, Carthaginian and Roman forces, Syracuse and other Sicilian communities all overstruck one another's bronze coins. There may be political dimensions to these overstrikes, but probably the chief motive was to produce quickly a valid currency for the use of troops.

Other overstrikes are explicable in terms of the monetary systems in which they circulated. Ancient coins were struck and circulated in either open or closed monetary systems. In open monetary systems, coins moved freely and their nominal value was identical or nearly so to their bullion value, and in an open monetary system, coins might be overstruck for any of the reasons suggested above. In the Greek world, large silver denominations generally circulated in open monetary systems, while bronze and small silver denominations circulated in closed monetary systems, although in some instances closed monetary systems were able to enforce control over large silver denominations as well. For example, the Attalid kingdom imposed its peculiar cistophoric standard and recoined and occasional overstruck Attic weight coins after reducing their weight. A famous inscription from Olbia demonstrates how that relatively isolated city was able to maintain a closed monetary system:

> Anyone who wishes may sail to the Borysthenes under the following conditions: Resolution of the Council and people, proposed by Canobus son of Thrasydamas. The import and export of any kind of coined gold and silver is permitted. Anyone who wishes to sell or buy coined gold and silver is to sell and buy it on the stone in the meeting place of the Assembly. If anyone buys or sells it elsewhere he is to be put on trial, and (if found guilty) the seller is to forfeit the silver which has been sold, and the buyer the price which he paid for it. All selling and buying is to take place in the currency of the state, in bronze and silver of the city of Olbia. If any sale or purchase takes place in any other currency, the seller is to be deprived of whatever he is selling, and the buyer of the price that he pays for it. And those who buy the contract for lawbreakers shall exact the penalty from those who have offended against the decree, when they have duly convicted them. It is to be permitted to buy and to sell gold, the Cyzicene stater at ten (?eleven) and a half staters, and on no account at a higher value or greater price, and other gold or silver coinage of all kinds at any rate satisfactory to both the parties concerned. No tax is to be levied either on the sale or the purchase of coined gold or silver...

In closed monetary systems, only official designated coins, normally the current issues of the governing authority, were allowed to circulate and the value of coins was dictated by the governing authority. In the case of bronze coins, their nominal value was generally much greater than the metal they contained. The issuing authority could demonetize such coins at will and remonetize them for a fee by complete recoining, countermarking, or overstriking. In essence, the process essentially imposed a tax on coins in circulation. Such de- and re-monetization may be recognized by massive recoining with new types, countermarking, or restriking, and by existence of hoards which consist virtually entirely of one issue of coins, with no or insignificant numbers of older coins. Many cultures employed such schemes, demonetizing significantly over-valued coins and remonetizing them for a fee. It was a familiar procedure in Europe during the Middle Ages and existed even further afield and more recently. An account of such overstriking in mid-nineteenth century Afghanistan illustrates the process:

> The whole of the copper coinage is called in every two or three months, at the will of the ruler of Kandahar (who regulates the value of the shah *[a coin denomination]* and usually brings them down to half-price for a few days before they are called in), and taken at half price, stamped and reissued at their full value. All which remain in the market of the old supply (unstamped) are called ghat *[a very small denomination, probably one-tenth the shah]*.

Although demonetization and remonetization did not occur in the ancient world with the frequency of Afghanistan or even medieval Europe, the process was

basically similar and the most frequent reason that Greek bronze coins were overstruck. Here is a good example from Pantikapiaon in the Crimea, the capitol of the kingdom of the Cimmerian Bosporus. Originally struck with Satyr/Lion types, the coins were then demonetized and remonetized by striking them with countermarks from hinged dies bearing a star on one side and a bow in bowcase on the other. These coins were later again demonetized and remonetized by overstriking them with Satyr/Bow and Arrow types. These are very common coins, and enormous hoards are found containing just coins in one state, the initial Satyr/Lion type, or that type with the countermarks, or that type with the countermarks subsequently overstruck with the new types. There does not seem to be any other reasonable explanation of this consistent phenomenon, of one state only circulating at a time.

Overstiking often served more than one purpose. Attic weight Macedonian and Thasian tetradrachms were overstruck during the second century B.C. as Asia cistophori after being pared down to the correct weight. Macedonian and Thasian tetradrachms circulated primarily in the northern Aegean and Greece, while cistophori were current virtually only in the Attalid realm. The process changed both their standard and area of circulation. At Syracuse, bronze issues of Agathocles were massively overstruck by later governments, removing the name of the despised tyrant from the city coinage and raising revenue through the de- and re-monetization by overstriking.

A variety of techniques seem to have been employed in overstriking coins. Some were probably overstruck without any preliminary preparation of the host coin. Many Cretan and Lycian silver overstrikes appear to have been executed in this manner. Other coins were prepared for overstriking by hammering the original relief relatively flat. Some Pontic bronze host coins from the time of Mithradates VI Eupator appear to have been subject both hammering and coarse grinding before overstriking. The Bar Kochba overstrikes on Roman silver coins were routinely prepared by hammering on both the surface and edges. Corinthian-type staters overstruck in large numbers by the Greek cities of southern Italy were trimmed along the edge and then apparently hammered on their edges to increase the thickness of the flan so that overstriking did not result in excessively thin, fragile coins. The determination whether annealing was employed in any particular case requires able and extensive professional metallurgical analysis.

Overstrikes and hoards complement and supplement one another as sources of information and occasionally provide contrasting emphases. Hoards from southern Italy, for example, do not reveal the deep penetration of archaic Akragas didrachms into that area that overstrikes attest nor do Sicilian hoards demonstrate the significant presence of archaic staters of Thasos also attested by overstrikes.

The chronological implications of overstrikes are obvious. An overstrike is later than the particular host coin on which it is struck, but that is not necessarily true for all coins of the two types. An overstrike demonstrates only that the striking of

the overtype did not end before the issue of the host coin began. The bulk of the issue of the overtype could actually be later than the bulk of the issue of the host coin, if a late example of the overtype were struck on an early example of the host coin. Still, the chronological implications of overstrikes are sometimes important and even revolutionary. The discovery of overstrikes in recent years have upset the long-accepted chronology of the late Indo-Greek rulers. Until the discovery of this overstrike, it was universally held that Heliocles II ruled before Hermaios, at least a decade earlier and as much as fifty years earlier in some estimates. Actually, the only evidence for this was style, the coins of Heliocles II being generally much finer style than Hermaios' coins, and in the Indo-Greek series, style tends to degenerate over time. This coin and others discovered subsequently show Hermaios overstruck bronzes of Heliocles II, showing that he could not be much later. Hermaios may, despite style, have been earlier, and at least (and more likely), the two reigns must have overlapped to some degree.

Well, that is my main text, and now I would just like to show you illustrations of another couple of overstrikes that I really like:

- Numismatic roadkill: Teos over Aegina
- Posthumous Alexander type of Mesambria over earlier Alexander type, probably from Aspendus or one of the other southern Anatolian mints. Why strike an Alexander type over another perfectly good Alexander type – and this is no unique example. Quite a number of similar pieces are recorded. I can make two suggestions, but proof is lacking. Mesambria was something of a trade center, and possibly the city was able to enforce a policy that all transactions had to be done in local coinage, thereby forcing merchants to have foreign coins overstruck for a fee, earning revenue for the city. We also know that Mesambria paid tribute to Thracian tribes. Perhaps it was demanded that this tribute be paid in newly minted tetradrachms of the city, overstriking of foreign coins used to provide the coins demanded for the tribute.
- Barbarous imitation of Thasos over Athenian New Style tetradrachm. Around 130 B.C., large numbers of Athenian New Style tetradrachms moved to Macedonia and Thrace. By about 90 B.C. this flow had largely ceased and Athenian tetradrachms were an absolete coinage in the region, replaced in Thrace by the tetradrachms of Thasos, by imitations of Thasian tetradrachms now generally believed to have been struck by Roman authorities in Macedonia, and by barbarous tribal copies of Thasian tetradrachms. We know that obsolete coin types were often discounted in the market place, and here apparently by about 90 B.C. in Thrace, even a rather poor imitation of Thasos was preferred over a perfectly good if somewhat old coin from the Athenian mint.

Our 1044th Meeting

Date: December 14, 2005

Time: 5:30PM to 6PM Cocktails
6PM to 7PM Hors d'oeuvres
7PM to 9 PM+ Dinner and Meeting

Location: Marcello's Restaurant, 645 West North Avenue, Chicago.

Menu: The evenings menu includes hors d'oeuvres (sponsored by Mark Wieclaw and Glen DeCosta) including bacon wrapped scallops with apricot chutney, Teriyaki chicken skewers with Thai peanut sauce, sun-dried tomato bruschetta and spinach-mushroom pastry puffs. The main meal will include a salad, garlic-oregano broasted chicken, penne pasta with marinara sauce and grilled vegetables. Dessert is caramel, fudge walnut and cream cheese brownie wedges. To eliminate a bartenders fee, there will be a table in our room with California White Zinfandel wine at $5.00 per glass. The restaurant bar down the hall is available for those who wish mixed drinks.

The cost is $25.00 per person and reservations are required. Make your check payable to the Chicago Coin Club and mail it to P.O. Box 2301, Chicago, IL 60690. If your plans develop late, then e-mail Carl Wolf at carlwolfco@msn.com or call 773-878-8979.

Program: Leonard Augsburger on *The Baltimore Gold Hoard*

Mr. Augsburger has completed a great deal of research on this fascinating story that will soon be published into a book. The story took place in 1934 during the Great Depression when two poverty stricken teenagers discovered thousands of U.S. gold coins in the cellar of an east Baltimore tenement. The coins, struck between 1834 and 1856, represented a Civil War era collection, and the population of Baltimore broke forth in a wave of speculation and intrigue amid the lure of buried treasure. Many came forward to stake their claim and sought to take away the prize from the impoverished children. Join us to hear the details of this story and what became of the hoard and the teenagers who found it. Were they able to keep the coins, what happened to them years later, etc.? All these questions will be answered as the story unfolds!

Those who attend this talk should be prepared to experience a flood of childhood memories because this story contains all the elements in the storybooks read to us by our parents and teachers: children discovering buried treasure, the treasure is of unimaginable value, the children are impoverished, and of course, the unscrupulous (evil) adults trying to steal the treasure from the children. What more can you ask for?

Silent Auction Benefiting the Chicago Coin Club

Lyle Daly has graciously volunteered to organize a silent auction. He asks members to contact him if they have items they wish to donate. All proceeds will go the the club. He can be contacted at lyledaly@msn.com. He hopes to have at least 15 items and has collected the following eight treasures so far:

1. Last year we offered a die cast metal 1/64 scale model of a Peterbilt Steelcase furniture delivery truck. This year we have a companion piece. This is a die cast metal 1/64 scale model of a "Cab Over" tractor and trailer of a Meridian furniture delivery truck. This also comes with the original box and wrapping. It is manufactured by Winross. This item was donated by Lyle Daly. Estimated Retail Value - Priceless to the Collector!
   Min Bid = $5. Increment: $1.
2. Victorian cream & sugar set from the estate of Dora Post-Cortner, donated by great niece, KL Robertson Daly.
   Min Bid = $10. Increment: $1.
3. Mirror, mirror on the wall. This beveled glass decorative mirror hung by your door help you look your best as you head out the door. This item is donated by KL Daly and Nancy Maszka.
   Min Bid = $5 Increment: $1.
4. This hand woven basket has its origin in Africa. It was purchased in Ann Arbor Michigan in the mid 1970s. The workmanship speaks for itself. This item is from the estate of Rosemary Daly donated by son, Lyle Daly.
   Min Bid = $10. Increment: $1.
5. Self working card tricks. You too can astound your friends with amazing feats of prestidigitation!!! You get The Book. You get not one but TWO decks of cards.
   Min Bid = $10. Increment: $1.
6. The pottery of the Acoma pueblo of the New Mexico Four Corners area is world renowned. This piece is reconstructed and consequently is only of decorative value. The vignette is in the traditional black on a white background of an elk with a red heart line. In pristine condition these sell in the $200 and up range.
   Min Bid = $10. Increment: $1.
7. We won't say that you will be an overnight success in business with this stylish zippered folio, but at least you will look the part. This accessory sports multiple pockets and removable 3 ring binder.This lamp is generously donated by Carl Wolf and has a retail value of $35.00.
   Min Bid = $10. Increment: $1.
8. This beautifully crafted brass notepad receptacle sports a cloisonné emblem for Trump Plaza. This item was legitimately acquired for the Chicago Coin Club by member Carl Wolf. The velvet lined interior will accommodate 4" by 5" note paper. This carries an estimated retail value of $50.00.
   Min Bid = $15. Increment: $2.

Auction Results
November 9, 2005

The club netted $80 from the donated material. These are the realized prices for the lots listed in the November *Chatter*; additional lots were consigned just before the auction.

1	$50.00	101	$10.00	105	$4.00
2	18.00	102	10.00	106	5.00
3	12.00	103	5.00	107	11.00
		104	NB		

Important Dates

December 14 CCC Meeting - Annual Banquet - Featured Speaker - Leonard Augsburger on *The Baltimore Gold Hoard*

January 11 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*

February 8 CCC Meeting - Featured Speaker - *to be announced*

Birthday and Year Joined

January 2	Al Sawyer	1999
January 16	Michael Metras	
January 26	Jennie Sochon	1982